UNITED NATIONS

WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Copenhagen, Denmark
6-12 March 1995

Distr.
LIMITED

A/CONF.166/L.1
2 February 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Item 10 of the provisional agenda*

ADOPTION OF THE DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION OF THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Draft declaration and draft programme of action

Note by the Secretary-General

The draft declaration and the draft programme of action of the World Summit for Social Development, as approved by the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit for Social Development at its third session, which was held in New York from 16 to 28 January 1995, are hereby transmitted to the Summit for further consideration.

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* A/CONF.166/1.

PART ONE

DRAFT DECLARATION

1. For the first time in history, at the invitation of the United Nations, we gather as Heads of State and Government to recognize the significance of social development and human well-being for all and to give to these goals the highest priority both now and into the twenty-first century.

2. We acknowledge that the people of the world have shown in different ways an urgent need to address profound social problems, specially poverty, unemployment and social exclusion that affect every country. It is our task to address both their underlying and structural causes and their distressing consequences in order to reduce uncertainty and insecurity in the life of people.

3. We acknowledge that our societies must respond more effectively to the material and spiritual needs of individuals, their families and communities in which they live throughout our diverse countries and regions. We must do so as a matter of urgency, but also as a matter of sustained and unshakeable commitment through the years ahead.

4. We are convinced that democracy and transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society are indispensable foundations for the realization of social and people centred sustainable development.

5. We share the conviction that social development and social justice are indispensable for the achievement and maintenance of peace and security within and among our nations. In turn, social development and social justice cannot be attained in the absence of peace and security or in the absence of respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms. This essential interdependence was recognized 50 years ago in the Charter of the United Nations and has grown ever stronger.

6. We are also deeply convinced that social development and economic development are interdependent and mutually reinforcing. Equitable social development is a necessary foundation for sustainable development and economic prosperity. At the same time, sustainable development and broad-based and sustained economic growth are equally necessary for social development and social justice.

7. We recognize, therefore, that social development is central to the needs and aspirations of people throughout the world and to the responsibilities of Governments and all sectors of civil society. We affirm that in both economic and social terms, the most productive policies and investments are those which empower people to maximize their capacities, resources and opportunities. We acknowledge that social and economic development cannot be secured in a sustainable way without the full participation of women and that equality and equity between women and men is a priority for the international community and as such must be at the centre of economic and social development.

8. We acknowledge that people are at the centre of our concerns for sustainable development and that they are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with the environment.

9. We gather here to commit ourselves, our Governments and our nations to enhancing social development throughout the world so that all men and women, especially those living in poverty, may exercise the rights, utilize the resources, and share the responsibilities which enable them to lead satisfying lives and to contribute to the well-being of their families, their communities and humankind. To support and promote these efforts must be overriding goals of the international community, especially with respect to those suffering from poverty, unemployment and social exclusion.

10. We make this solemn commitment on the eve of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations and with a determination to capture the unique possibilities offered by the end of the Cold War to promote social development and social justice. We reaffirm and are guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and by agreements reached at relevant international conferences, including the World Summit for Children at New York in 1990, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at Rio in 1992, the World Conference on Human Rights at Vienna in 1993, the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in Barbados, and the International Conference on Population and Development at Cairo in 1994. By this Summit we launch a new commitment to social development in each of our countries and a new era of international cooperation between Governments and peoples based on a spirit of partnership that puts the needs, rights and aspirations of people at the centre of our decisions and joint actions.

11. We gather here in Copenhagen in a Summit of hope, commitment and action. We gather with full awareness of the difficulty of the tasks that lie ahead but with a conviction that major progress can be achieved, must be achieved and will be achieved.

12. We commit ourselves to this Declaration and Programme of Action for enhancing social development and ensuring human well-being for all throughout the world now and into the twenty-first century. We invite all people, in all countries and in all walks of life, as well as the international community, to join us in our common cause.

A. Current social situation and reasons for convening the Summit

13. We are witnessing in countries throughout the world the expansion of prosperity for some, unfortunately accompanied by an expansion of unspeakable poverty for others. This glaring contradiction is unacceptable and needs to be corrected through urgent actions.

14. Globalization, which is a consequence of increased human mobility, enhanced communications, greatly increased trade and capital flows and technological developments, opens new opportunities for sustained economic growth and development of the world economy, particularly in developing countries.

Globalization also permits countries to share experiences, to learn from one another's achievements and difficulties and a cross-fertilization of ideals, cultural values and aspirations. At the same time, the rapid processes of change and adjustment have been accompanied by intensified poverty, unemployment and social disintegration. Threats to human well-being, such as environmental risks, have also been globalized. Furthermore, the global transformations of the world economy are profoundly changing the parameters of social development in all countries. The challenge is how to manage these processes and threats so as to enhance their benefits and mitigate their negative effects upon people.

15. There has been progress in some areas of social and economic development, inter alia:

(a) The global wealth of nations has multiplied sevenfold in the past 50 years and international trade has grown even more dramatically;

(b) Life expectancy, literacy and primary education, and access to basic health care, including family planning, have increased in the majority of countries and average infant mortality has been reduced, including in developing countries;

(c) Democratic pluralism, democratic institutions and fundamental civil liberties have expanded. Decolonization efforts have achieved much progress, while the elimination of apartheid is an historic achievement.

16. Yet we recognize that far too many people, and particularly women and children, are vulnerable to stress and deprivation. Poverty, unemployment and social disintegration too often result in isolation, marginalization and violence. The insecurity many people, in particular vulnerable people, face about the future - their own and their children's - is intensifying:

(a) Within many societies, both in developed and developing countries, the gap between rich and poor has increased. Further, and despite the fact that some developing countries are growing rapidly, the gap between developed and many developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, has widened.

(b) More than one billion people in the world live in abject poverty, most of whom go hungry every day. A large proportion, the majority of whom are women, have very limited access to income, resources, education, health care or nutrition, particularly in Africa and the least developed countries.

[(c) There are also serious social problems in countries with economies in transition and those experiencing fundamental political, economic and social transformations;]

(d) The major cause of the continued deterioration of the global environment is the unsustainable pattern of consumption and production, particularly in industrialized countries, which is a matter of grave concern, aggravating poverty and imbalances;

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(e) Continued growth in the world's population, its structure and distribution, and its relationship with poverty and social and gender inequality, challenge the adaptive capacities of Governments, individuals, social institutions, and the natural environment;

(f) Over 120 million people worldwide are officially unemployed and many more are underemployed. Too many young people, including those with formal education, have little hope for finding productive work;

(g) More women than men live in absolute poverty, and the imbalance continues to grow, with serious consequences for women and their children. Women carry a disproportionate share of the problems of coping with poverty, social disintegration, unemployment, environmental degradation and the effects of war;

(h) One of the world's largest minorities, more than one in ten, are people with disabilities, who are too often forced into poverty, unemployment and social isolation. In addition, in all countries, older persons may be particularly vulnerable to social exclusion, poverty and marginalization;

(i) Tens of millions of people worldwide are refugees or internally displaced persons. The tragic social consequences have a critical effect on the social stability and development of their home country, their host country and the respective regions.

17. While these problems are global in character and affect all countries, we clearly acknowledge that the situation of most developing countries, and particularly of Africa and the least developed countries, is critical and requires special attention and action. We also acknowledge that these countries, undergoing fundamental political, economic and social transformation, including those in the process of consolidating peace and democracy, require the support of the international community.

18. Countries with economies in transition, which are also undergoing fundamental political, economic and social transformation, require the support of the international community as well.

19. Other countries undergoing fundamental political, economic and social transformation require the support of the international community as well.

20. The goals and objectives of social development require continuous efforts to reduce and eliminate major sources of social distress and instability for the family and for society. We pledge our particular focus upon and priority attention to the fight against worldwide conditions which pose severe threats to the health, safety, peace, security, and the well-being of our people. Among these are chronic hunger, malnutrition, illicit drug problems, organized crime, corruption, foreign occupation, armed conflicts, illicit arms trafficking, terrorism, intolerance and incitement to racial, ethnic, religious and other hatreds, xenophobia, and endemic, communicable and chronic diseases. To this end, coordination and cooperation at the national and particularly regional and international levels should be further strengthened.

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21. In this context, the negative impact upon development of excessive military expenditures, arms trade and investment for arms production and acquisition must be addressed.

22. Communicable diseases constitute a serious health problem in all countries, are major cause of death globally, and in many cases, their incidence is increasing. These diseases are a hindrance to social development and often the cause of poverty and social exclusion. The prevention, treatment and control of these diseases, covering a spectrum from tuberculosis and malaria to HIV/AIDS, must be given highest priority.

23. We can continue to hold the trust of the people of the world only if we make their needs our priority. We know that poverty, lack of productive employment and social disintegration are an offence to human dignity. We also know that they are negatively reinforcing and represent a waste of human resources and a manifestation of ineffectiveness in the functioning of markets and economic and social institutions and processes.

24. Our challenge is to establish a people-centred framework for social development to guide us now and in the future, to build a culture of cooperation and partnership and to respond to the immediate needs of those who are most affected by human distress. We are determined to meet this challenge and promote social development throughout the world.

B. Principles and goals

25. We, Heads of State and Government, are committed to a political, economic, ethical and spiritual vision for social development based on human dignity, human rights, equality, respect, peace, democracy, mutual responsibility and cooperation, and full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of people. Accordingly, we will give the highest priority in national, regional and international policies and actions to the promotion of social progress, justice and the betterment of the human condition, based on full participation by all.

26. To this end we will create a framework for action to:

(a) Place people at the centre of development and direct our economies to meet human needs more effectively;

(b) Fulfil our responsibility for present and future generations by ensuring equity among generations, and protecting the integrity and sustainable use of our environment;

(c) Recognize that social development is a national responsibility, the full success of which cannot be achieved without the collective commitment and efforts of the international community;

(d) Integrate economic, cultural and social policies so that they become mutually supportive, and acknowledge the interdependence of public and private spheres of activity;

(e) Recognize that the achievement of sustained social development requires sound broadly based economic policies;

(f) Promote democracy, human dignity, social justice and solidarity at the national, regional and international levels; ensure tolerance, non-violence and pluralism and non-discrimination in full respect of diversity within and among societies;

(g) Promote equitable distribution of income and greater access to resources through equity and equality of opportunity for all;

(h) Recognize the family as the basic unit of society and acknowledge that it plays a key role in social development and as such should be strengthened, with attention to the rights, capabilities and responsibilities of its members. In different cultural, political and social systems various forms of family exist. It is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support;

(i) Ensure that disadvantaged and vulnerable persons and groups are included in social development, and that society acknowledges and responds to the consequences of disability by securing the legal rights of the individual and by making the physical and social environment accessible;

(j) Promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including the right to development; promote the effective exercise of rights and the discharge of responsibilities at all levels of society; promote equality and equity between women and men; protect the rights of children and youth; and promote the strengthening of social integration and civil society;

[(k) Reaffirm and promote the universal realization of the right to self-determination of people under colonial or foreign occupation;]

(l) Support progress and security for people and communities whereby every member of society is enabled to satisfy basic human needs and to realize their personal dignity, safety and creativity;

(m) Recognize and support indigenous people in their pursuit of economic and social development with full respect for their identity, traditions, forms of social organization and cultural values;

(n) Underline the importance of transparent and accountable governance and administration in all public and private national and international institutions;

(o) Recognize that empowering people, particularly women, to strengthen their own capacities is a main objective of development and its principal resource. Empowerment requires the full participation of people in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of decisions determining the functioning and well-being of our societies;

(p) Assert the universality of social development, and outline a new and strengthened approach to social development, with a renewed impetus for international cooperation and partnership;

(q) Improve the possibility of older persons achieving a better life;

(r) Recognize that the new information technologies and new approaches to the access to and use of technologies by people living in poverty can help in fulfilling social development goals; and therefore recognize the need to facilitate access to such technologies;

(s) Strengthen policies and programmes that improve **[ensure]** and broaden the participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, as equal partners, and improve their access to all resources needed for the full exercise of their fundamental rights;

(t) Create the political, legal, material and social conditions to allow for the voluntary repatriation of refugees in safety and dignity to their countries of origin, and the voluntary and safe return of internally displaced persons to their places of origin and their smooth reintegration into their societies;

(u) Emphasize the importance of the return of all prisoners of war, persons missing-in-action and hostages to their families, in accordance with international conventions, in order to reach full social development.

27. We acknowledge that it is the primary responsibility of States to attain these goals. We also acknowledge that these goals cannot be achieved by States alone. The international community, the United Nations, the multilateral financial institutions, all regional organizations and local authorities, and all actors of civil society need to positively contribute their own share of efforts and resources in order to reduce inequalities among people and narrow the gap between developed and **[other countries in the world, developing countries, and countries with economies in transition]** in a global effort to reduce social tensions, and to create greater social and economic stability and security. We invite everyone to express their personal commitment to enhancing the human condition through concrete actions in their own fields of activities and through assuming specific civic responsibilities.

Note: The words in brackets and in bold are pending; a proposed alternative was to retain only the words "developing countries" and to insert a new sentence: "Radical political, social and economic changes in the countries with economies in transition have been accompanied by a severe deterioration of their economic and social situation."

C. Commitments

28. On the basis of our common pursuit of social development, which aims at social justice, solidarity, harmony and equality within and among countries, in full respect for national sovereignty **[and territorial integrity]**, as well as policy objectives, development priorities and religious and cultural diversity,

and full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, we launch a global drive for social progress and development embodied in the following commitments:

Commitment 1

We commit ourselves to create an enabling economic, political, social, cultural and legal environment that will enable people to achieve social development.

To this end, at the national level, we will:

(a) Provide a stable legal framework, **[in accordance with our constitutions, national laws and procedures,] [in accordance with international obligations and constitutional laws and procedures,]** that includes and promotes equality and equity between women and men, full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law, access to justice, elimination of all forms of discrimination, transparent and accountable governance and administration and the encouragement of partnership with free and representative organizations of civil society;

(b) To create an enabling economic environment aimed at promoting more equitable access for all to income, resources and social services;

(c) Reinforce as appropriate the means and capacities for people to participate in the formulation and implementation of social and economic policies and programmes through decentralization, open management of public institutions, and strengthening of the abilities and opportunities of civil society and local communities to develop their own organizations, resources and activities;

(d) Reinforce peace by promoting tolerance, non-violence and respect for diversity, and by settlement of dispute by peaceful means;

(e) Promote dynamic, open, free markets, while recognizing the need to intervene in markets to the extent necessary, to prevent or counteract market failure, promote stability and long-term investment, ensure fair competition and ethical conduct, and harmonize economic and social development, including the development and implementation of appropriate programmes that would entitle and enable people living in poverty and disadvantage, especially women, to participate fully and productively in the economy and society;

(f) Reaffirm, promote and strive to ensure the realization of rights contained in relevant international instruments and declarations, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Declaration on the Right to Development, including those relating to education, food, shelter, employment, health and information, particularly in order to assist people living in poverty.

At the international level, we will:

(g) Promote international peace and security and make and support all efforts to settle international dispute by peaceful means in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

(h) Strengthen international cooperation for achieving social development;

(i) Promote and implement policies to create a supportive external economic environment, inter alia, through cooperation in the formulation and implementation of macroeconomic policies, trade liberalization, **[provision of adequate, predictable, new and additional financial resources for sustainable development,]** enhanced financial stability, and more equitable access of developing countries to global markets, productive investments and technologies and appropriate knowledge, with due consideration for the needs of countries with economies in transition;

(j) Strive to ensure that international agreements relating to trade, investment, technology, debt and official development assistance (ODA) are implemented in a manner which promotes social development;

(k) Support, particularly through technical and financial cooperation, the efforts of developing countries to achieve rapid, broadly based sustainable development. Particular consideration should be given to the special needs of small island and land-locked developing countries and the least developed countries;

(l) Support through appropriate international cooperation the efforts of countries with economies in transition to achieve rapid broadly based sustainable development;

(m) Reaffirm and promote all human rights, which are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, including the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights, and strive to ensure that they are respected, protected and observed.

Commitment 2

We commit ourselves to the goal of eradicating poverty in the world, through decisive national actions and international cooperation, as an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of humankind.

To this end, at the national level, in partnership with all actors of civil society and in the context of a multidimensional and integrated approach, we will:

(a) Formulate or strengthen, as a matter of urgency, and preferably by the year 1996, the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty, national policies and strategies geared to substantially reducing overall poverty in the shortest possible time, and reducing inequalities, and to eradicate absolute poverty by a target date to be specified by each country in its national context;

(b) Focus our efforts and policies to address the root causes of poverty and to provide for the basic needs of all. These efforts should include: the elimination of hunger and malnutrition, the provision of food security, education, employment and livelihood, primary health care services, including reproductive health care, safe drinking water and sanitation, adequate shelter and participation in social and cultural life. Special priority will be given to the needs and rights of women and of children, who often bear the greatest burden of poverty, and to the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups and persons;

(c) Ensure that people living in poverty have access to productive resources - including credit, land, education and training, technology, knowledge and information - and public services, and participation in decision making on a policy and regulatory environment that would enable them to benefit from expanding employment and economic opportunities;

(d) Develop and implement policies to ensure that all people have adequate economic and social protection during unemployment, ill health, maternity, child rearing, widowhood, disability and old age;

(e) Ensure that national budgets and policies are oriented, as necessary, to meeting basic needs, reducing inequalities and targeting poverty, as a strategic objective;

(f) Seek to reduce inequalities, increase opportunities and access to resources and income, and remove any political, legal, economic and social factors and constraints that foster and sustain inequality.

At the international level, we will:

(g) Strive to ensure that the international community and international organizations, particularly the multilateral financial institutions, assist developing countries and all countries in need in their efforts towards the achievement of our overall goal of eradicating poverty and ensuring basic social protection;

(h) Encourage all international donors and multilateral development banks to: support policies and programmes for the attainment, in a sustained manner, of the specific efforts of the developing countries and all countries in need relating to people centred sustainable development and to meeting basic needs for all; assess their existing programmes in consultation with the concerned developing countries to ensure the achievement of the agreed programme objectives; and seek to ensure that their own policies and programmes would advance the attainment of agreed development goals that focus on meeting basic needs for all and eradicating absolute poverty. Efforts should be made to ensure that participation by the people concerned is an integral part of such programmes;

(i) Focus attention on and support the special needs of countries and regions in which there are substantial concentrations of people living in poverty, in particular those in South Asia, and which therefore face serious difficulties in achieving social and economic development.

Commitment 3

We commit ourselves to promoting the goal of full employment as a basic priority of our economic and social policies, and to enabling all men and women to attain secure and sustainable livelihoods through freely chosen productive employment and work.

To this end, at the national level, we will:

(a) Put the creation of employment, the reduction of unemployment, and the promotion of appropriately and adequately remunerated employment at the centre of strategies and policies of Governments, in full respect for workers' rights, with the participation of employers, workers and their respective organizations, and giving special attention to the problems of structural, long-term unemployment and underemployment of youth, women, people with disabilities and all other disadvantaged groups and individuals;

(b) Develop policies to expand work opportunities and productivity in both rural and urban sectors by achieving economic growth, investing in human resource development, promoting technologies that generate productive employment, and encouraging self-employment, entrepreneurship, and small and medium-sized enterprises;

(c) Improve access to land, credit, information, infrastructure and other productive resources for small and micro-enterprises, including those in the informal sector, with particular emphasis on the disadvantaged sectors of society;

(d) Develop policies to ensure that workers and employers have the education, information and training needed to adapt to changing economic conditions, technologies and labour markets;

(e) Explore innovative options for employment creation and seek new approaches to generating income and purchasing power;

(f) Foster policies which enable people to combine their paid work with their family responsibilities;

(g) Pay particular attention to women's access to employment, the protection of their position in the labour market, and the promotion of equal treatment of women and men, in particular with respect to pay;

(h) Take due account of the importance of the informal sector in our employment development strategies with a view to increasing its contribution to the eradication of poverty and to social integration in developing countries, and to strengthening its linkages with the formal economy;

[(i) Pursue the goal of ensuring quality jobs and respect for the relevant conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO).]

[Alternative sub-commitment (i): Pursue the goal of ensuring quality jobs and safeguard the basic rights and interests of workers through the observance

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and promotion of core labour standards, as contained in the main ILO framework conventions, including prohibitions on forced and child labour, the freedom of association and the right to organize and bargain collectively, the principle of non-discrimination, and thereby furthering the achievement of secure, sustainable and equitably remunerated employment.]

At the international level, we will:

(j) Ensure that migrant workers benefit from the protections provided by appropriate national and international instruments, and take concrete and effective measures against the exploitation of migrant workers, and encourage all countries to consider the ratification and full implementation of the relevant international instruments on migrant workers;

(k) Foster international cooperation in macroeconomic policies, liberalization of trade and investment so as to promote sustained economic growth and the creation of employment, and exchange experiences on successful policies and programmes aimed at increasing employment and reducing unemployment.

Commitment 4

We commit ourselves to promoting social integration by fostering societies that are stable, safe and just and based on the promotion and protection of all human rights, and on non-discrimination, tolerance, respect for diversity, equality of opportunity, solidarity, security and participation of all people including disadvantaged and vulnerable groups and persons.

To this end, at the national level, we will:

(a) Promote respect for democracy, the rule of law, pluralism and diversity, tolerance and responsibility, non-violence and solidarity, by encouraging educational systems and communication media and local communities and organizations to raise people's understanding and awareness of all aspects of social integration;

(b) Formulate or strengthen policies and strategies geared to the elimination of discrimination in all its forms and the achievement of social integration based on equality and respect for human dignity;

(c) Promote access for all to education, information, technology and know-how as essential means to enhancing communication and participation in civil, political, economic, social and cultural life, and ensure respect for civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights;

(d) Ensure the protection and full integration into the economy and society of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups and persons;

(e) Create the comprehensive conditions to allow for the voluntary repatriation of refugees in safety and dignity to their countries of origin and the voluntary and safe return of internally displaced persons to their places of origin and their smooth reintegration into their societies;

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(f) Formulate or strengthen measures to ensure respect for, and protection of, the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families, to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in sectors of many societies, and to promote greater harmony and tolerance in all societies;

(g) Recognize and respect the right of indigenous people to maintain and develop their identity, culture and interests, support their aspirations for social justice, and provide an environment that enables them to participate in the social, economic and political life of their country;

(h) Foster the social protection and full integration into the economy and society of veterans, including veterans and victims of the Second World War, and other wars;

(i) Acknowledge and encourage the contribution of people of all age groups as equally and vitally important for the building of a harmonious society, and foster dialogue between generations in all parts of society;

(j) Recognize and respect cultural, ethnic and religious diversity, and promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities; and take measures to facilitate their full participation in all aspects of the political, economic, social, religious and cultural life of society and in the economic progress and social development in their country;

(k) Strengthen the ability of local communities and groups with common concerns to develop their own organizations and resources, and to propose policies relating to social development, including through the activities of non-governmental organizations;

(l) Strengthen institutions that enhance social integration, recognizing the central role of the family and providing it with an environment that assures its protection and support. In different cultural, political and social systems, various forms of the family exist;

(m) Address the problems of crime, violence and illicit drugs as factors of social disintegration.

At the international level, we will:

(n) Encourage the ratification, the avoidance as far as possible of the resort to reservations, and the implementation of international instruments and adherence to internationally recognized declarations relevant to the elimination of discrimination and the promotion and protection of all human rights, **[with full respect for the sovereignty of States;]**

(o) Further enhance international mechanisms for the provision of humanitarian and financial assistance to refugees and host countries that promote appropriate shared responsibility;

(p) Promote international cooperation and partnership on the basis of equality, mutual respect and mutual benefit.

Commitment 5

We commit ourselves to promoting full respect for human dignity and to achieving equality and equity between women and men, and to recognizing and enhancing the participation and leadership roles of women in political, civil, economic, social and cultural life and in development.

To this end, at the national level, we shall:

(a) Promote changes in attitudes, structures, policies, laws and practices in order to eliminate all obstacles to human dignity, equality and equity in the family and society; and promote full and equal participation of urban and rural women, and women with disabilities, in social, economic and political life, including in the formulation, implementation and follow-up of public policies and programmes;

(b) Establish structures, policies, objectives and measurable goals to ensure gender balance and equity in decision-making processes at all levels and broaden women's political, economic, social and cultural opportunities and independence and support the empowerment of women, including through their various organizations, especially those of indigenous women and those at the grassroots level, and among the poverty-stricken sections, including through affirmative action, where necessary, and also through measures to integrate a gender perspective in the design and implementation of economic and social policies;

(c) Promote full and equal access of women to literacy, education and training and remove all obstacles to their access to credit and other productive resources and to their ability to buy, hold and sell property and land equally with men;

(d) Take appropriate measures to ensure, on the basis of equality of men and women, universal access to health care services, including those relating to reproductive health care, **[programmes for which should provide the widest range of services, without any form of coercion;]**

(e) Remove remaining restrictions on women's rights to own land, inherit property or borrow money, and ensure women's equal right to work;

(f) Establish policies, objectives and goals which enhance the equality of status, welfare and opportunity of the girl child, especially in regard to health, nutrition, literacy and education, recognizing that gender discrimination starts at the earliest stages of life;

(g) Promote equal partnership between women and men in family and community life and society, emphasize the shared responsibility of men and women in the care of children and support for older family members, and emphasize men's shared responsibility and promote their active involvement in responsible parenthood and responsible sexual and reproductive behaviour;

(h) Take effective measures, including through the enactment and enforcement of laws, and implement policies to combat and eliminate all forms of discrimination, of exploitation, of abuse and of violence against women and girl children, in accordance with relevant international instruments and declarations;

(i) Promote and protect the full and equal enjoyment by women of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(j) Formulate or strengthen policies and practices to ensure that women are enabled to fully participate in paid work and in employment through such measures as positive action, education, training and employment, appropriate protection under labour legislation, and facilitating the provision of quality child care and other support services.

At the international level, we shall:

(k) Promote and protect women's human rights, and encourage the ratification, if possible by the year 2000, the avoidance, as far as possible, of the resort to reservations, and the implementation of the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and other relevant instruments, and the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, the Geneva Declaration on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women, and the Programme of Action adopted by the International Conference on Population and Development;

(l) Give specific attention to the preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women to be held at Beijing in September 1995 and to the implementation and follow-up of the conclusions of that Conference;

(m) Promote international cooperation to assist developing countries, at their request, in their efforts to achieve equality and equity, and empowerment of women;

(n) Devise suitable means to recognize and make visible the full extent of the work of women and all their contributions to the national economy, including contributions in the unremunerated and domestic sectors.

Commitment 6

We commit ourselves to accelerating the economic, social, and human resource development of Africa and the least developed countries.

To this end, we will:

(a) Implement at the national level structural adjustment policies, which should include social development goals, and effective development strategies that establish a more favourable climate for trade and investment, give priority to human resource development and further promote the development of democratic institutions;

(b) Support the domestic efforts of Africa and the least developed countries to implement economic reforms, programmes to increase food security, and commodity diversification efforts through international cooperation, including South-South cooperation, technical and financial assistance, as well as trade and partnership;

(c) Find a **[realistic]**, **[effective,]** comprehensive, **[equitable, development-oriented, durable]** **[and sustainable]** solution to the external debt problem by taking urgent action and measures **[on all types of debt]**, inter alia, the cancellation **[or reduction]** of bilateral debt taking into account the mid-term review of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, **[and no later than 1996, the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty]**;

(d) Ensure the implementation of the strategies and measures for the development of Africa decided by the international community and support the reform efforts, development strategies and programmes decided by the African countries and the least developed countries;

(e) Increase **[the impact of]** official development assistance, both in total and for social programmes, consistent with countries' economic circumstances and capacity to assist, and consistent with commitments in international agreements;

(f) Consider ratifying the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa and support African countries in the implementation of urgent action to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought;

(g) Take all necessary measures aimed at ensuring that communicable diseases, particularly HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, do not restrict or reverse progress in economic and social development.

Commitment 7

We commit ourselves to ensuring that when structural adjustment programmes are agreed to they should include social development goals, in particular, of eradicating poverty, promoting full and productive employment and enhancing social integration.

To this end, at the national level, we will:

(a) Promote basic social programmes and expenditures, in particular those affecting the poor and the vulnerable segments of society and protect them from budget reductions while increasing the quality and effectiveness of social expenditures;

(b) Review the impact of structural adjustment programmes on social development, including, where appropriate, by means of gender sensitive social impact assessments and other relevant methods, in order to develop policies to reduce their negative effects and improve their positive impact; the cooperation of international financial institutions in the review could be requested by interested countries;

(c) In the countries with economies in transition, promote an integrated approach to the transformation process addressing the social consequences of reforms and human resource development needs;

(d) Reinforce the social development components of all adjustment policies and programmes, including those resulting from globalization of markets and rapid technological change, by designing policies to promote more equitable and enhanced access to income and resources;

(e) Ensure that women do not bear a disproportionate burden of the transitional costs of such processes.

At the international level, we will:

(f) Work to ensure that the multilateral development banks and other donors complement adjustment lending with enhanced targeted social development investment lending;

(g) Strive to ensure that structural adjustment programmes respond to the economic and social conditions, concerns and needs of each country;

(h) Enlist the support and cooperation of regional and international organizations, the United Nations System in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, in the design, social management, assessment of structural adjustment policies and in implementing social development goals and in integrating them into their policies, programmes and operations.

Commitment 8

We commit ourselves to increase significantly and/or utilize more efficiently the resources allocated to social development in order to achieve the goals of the Summit through national action, and regional and international cooperation.

To this end, at the national level, we will:

(a) Develop economic policies to promote and mobilize domestic savings and attract external resources for productive investment and seek innovative sources of funding, both public and private, for social programmes while ensuring their effective utilization;

(b) Implement macroeconomic and microeconomic policies to ensure sustained economic growth and sustainable development to support social development;

(c) Promote increased access to credit for small and micro-enterprises, including those in the informal sector, with particular emphasis on the disadvantaged sectors of society;

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(d) Ensure that reliable statistics and statistical indicators are used to develop and assess social policies and programmes so that economic and social resources are used efficiently and effectively;

(e) Ensure that, in accordance with national priorities and policies, taxation systems are fair, progressive and economically efficient, cognizant of sustainable development concerns, and ensure effective collection of tax liabilities;

(f) In the budgetary process, ensure transparency and accountability in the use of public resources and give priority to providing and improving basic social services;

(g) Undertake to explore new ways of generating new public and private financial resources, inter alia, through the appropriate reduction in excessive military expenditures including global military expenditures and arms trade, investments for arms production and acquisition, taking into consideration national security requirements, so as to allow possible allocation of additional funds for social and economic development;

(h) Utilize and develop fully the potential and contribution of cooperatives for the attainment of social development goals, in particular the eradication of poverty, the generation of full and productive employment and the enhancement of social integration.

At the international level, we shall:

(i) Seek to mobilize new and additional resources from all **[available]** funding sources and mechanisms including multilateral, bilateral and private sources, including on concessional and grant terms;

Note: The use of the word available is under discussion.

(j) Facilitate the flow, to developing countries, of international finance, technology and human skill in order to realize the objective of providing new and additional resources that are both adequate and predictable;

(k) Facilitate the flow of international finance, technology and human skill towards the countries with economies in transition;

(l) Strive for the fulfilment of the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product (GNP) for overall official development assistance as soon as possible, and increase the share of funding for social development programmes, commensurate with the scope and scale of activities required to achieve the objectives and goals of this Declaration and its Programme of Action;

(m) Increase the flow of international resources to meet the needs of countries facing problems relating to refugees and displaced persons;

(n) Support South-South cooperation which can take advantage of the experience of developing countries which have overcome similar difficulties;

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(o) Ensure urgent implementation of existing debt-relief agreements and negotiate further initiatives, in addition to existing ones, to alleviate debts of poorest and heavily indebted low-income countries at an early date, **[through debt cancellation]** especially through more favourable terms of debt forgiveness. Where appropriate, these countries should be given a reduction of their bilateral official debt sufficient to help enable them to exit from the rescheduling process and to enable them to resume growth and development. **[Consider means to give a sustainable solution to the growing difficulties of servicing multilateral debt.]** Develop techniques of debt conversion applied to social development projects in conformity with Summit priorities;

(p) Fully implement the Final Act of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations as scheduled, including the complementary provisions specified in the Marrakesh agreement, in recognition of the fact that broadly based growth in incomes, employment and trade are mutually reinforcing; taking into account the need to assist African countries and least developed countries in evaluating the impact of the implementation of the Final Act so that they can benefit fully;

(q) Monitor the impact of trade liberalization on progress made in developing countries to meet basic human needs, giving particular attention to new initiatives to expand their access to international markets;

(r) Give attention to the needs of the countries with economies in transition with respect to international cooperation and financial and technical assistance, stressing the need for the full integration of economies in transition into the world economy, in particular to improve market access for exports in accordance with multilateral trade rules, taking into account the needs of developing countries;

(s) Strengthen the capacity of **[and strive]** to increase financing for operational activities of the United Nations and specialized agencies in order to fulfil their responsibilities in the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development.

Commitment 9

We commit ourselves to an improved and strengthened framework for international, regional and subregional cooperation for social development, in a spirit of partnership, through the United Nations and other multilateral institutions.

To this end, at the national level, we will:

(a) Adopt the appropriate measures and mechanisms for implementing and monitoring the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development, with the assistance upon request, of the agencies, programmes and regional commissions of the United Nations system, with broad participation of all sectors of civil society.

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At the regional level, we will:

(b) Pursue such mechanisms and measures as are necessary and appropriate particular regions or subregions. The regional commissions, in cooperation with regional intergovernmental organizations and banks, could convene, on a biennial basis, a meeting at a high political level to evaluate progress made towards fulfilling the outcome of the Summit, exchange views on their respective experiences and adopt the appropriate measures. The regional commissions should report through the appropriate mechanisms to the Economic and Social Council on their outcome.

At the international level, we will:

(c) Instruct our representatives to the institutions of the United Nations system, international development agencies and multilateral development banks to enlist the support and cooperation of these institutions to take appropriate and coordinated measures for continuous and sustained progress in attaining the goals and commitments agreed to by the Summit. The United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions should establish regular and substantive dialogue, including at the field level for more effective and efficient coordination of assistance for social development;

[(d) Abstain from implementing coercive measures of a unilateral character which violate international law and put obstacles in the economic and social development of States;]

(e) Strengthen the structures, resources and processes of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and other organizations within the United Nations system that are concerned with economic and social development;

(f) The Economic and Social Council should review and assess, on the basis of the reports by the national governments, regional commissions, relevant functional commissions and United Nations specialized agencies, progress made by the international community towards implementing the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and should report to the General Assembly accordingly for its appropriate consideration and action;

(g) The General Assembly should hold a special session in the year 2000 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit and consider further actions and initiatives.

PART TWO

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF ACTION

1. This Programme of Action outlines policies, actions and measures to implement the principles and fulfil the commitments enunciated in the Declaration adopted by the World Summit for Social Development. Our success will be based on the results that we achieve.

2. Actions are recommended to create, in a framework of sustained economic growth and sustainable development, a national and international environment favourable to social development, to eradicate poverty, to enhance productive employment and reduce unemployment, and to foster social integration. All the recommended actions are linked, either in the requirements for their design, including the participation of all concerned, or in their consequences for the various facets of the human condition. Policies to eradicate poverty and reduce disparities and combat social exclusion require the creation of employment opportunities and would be incomplete and ineffective without measures to eliminate discrimination and promote participation and harmonious social relationships among groups and nations. Enhancing positive interaction between environmental, economic and social policies is also essential for success in the longer term. The well-being of people also requires the exercise of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and access to the provision of good education, health care and other basic public services, and the development of harmonious relations within communities. Social integration, or the capacity of people to live together in full respect for the dignity of each individual, the common good, for pluralism and diversity, non-violence and solidarity, and their ability to participate in social, cultural, economic and political life, encompasses all aspects of social development and all policies. It requires the protection of the weak, as well as the right to differ, to create and innovate. It calls for a sound economic environment as well as for cultures based on freedom and responsibility. It also calls for the full involvement of both the State and the civil society.

3. Many of the issues mentioned in this Programme of Action have been addressed in greater detail by previous world conferences concerned with questions closely related to the different aspects of social development. The Programme was elaborated against the background of, and taking into account the commitments, principles and recommendations of these other conferences, and is also based on the experience of many countries in promoting social objectives in the context of their particular conditions. The special importance of this Programme of Action lies in its integrated approach, its attempt to combine many different actions for poverty eradication, employment creation and social integration in coherent national and international strategies for social development. The implementation of the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action is the sovereign right of each country, consistent with national laws and development priorities, with full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of its people, and in conformity with all human rights and fundamental freedoms. Each country will also take action in accordance with its evolving capacities. The outcomes of

relevant international conferences should also be duly taken into account in the implementation of this Programme of Action.

CHAPTER I. AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

BASIS FOR ACTION AND OBJECTIVES

4. Social development is inseparable from the cultural, ecological, economic, political, and spiritual environment in which it takes place. It cannot be pursued as a sectoral initiative. Social development is also clearly linked to the development of peace, freedom, stability and security, both nationally and internationally. To promote social development requires an orientation of values, objectives and priorities towards the well-being of all and the strengthening and promotion of conducive institutions and policies. Human dignity, all human rights and fundamental freedoms, equality, equity and social justice constitute fundamental values of all societies. The pursuit, promotion and protection of these values, among others, provides the basic legitimacy of all institutions and all exercise of authority and promotes an environment in which human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature.

5. The economies and societies of the world are becoming increasingly interdependent. Trade and capital flows, migrations, scientific and technological innovations, communications and cultural exchanges, are shaping a global community. The same global community is threatened by environmental degradation, severe food crises, epidemics, all forms of racial discrimination, xenophobia, various forms of intolerance, violence and criminality and the risk of losing the richness of cultural diversity. Governments increasingly recognize that their responses to changing circumstances and their desires to achieve sustainable development and social progress will require increased solidarity, expressed through appropriate multilateral programmes and strengthened international cooperation. Such cooperation is particularly crucial to ensure that countries in need of assistance, such as those in Africa and the least developed countries, can benefit from the process of globalization.

6. Economic activities, through which individuals express their initiative and creativity and which enhance the wealth of communities, are a fundamental basis for social progress. But social progress will not be realized simply through the free interaction of market forces. Public policies are necessary to correct market failures, to complement market mechanisms, to maintain social stability and to create a national and international economic environment that promotes sustainable growth on a global scale. Such growth should promote equity and social justice, tolerance, responsibility and involvement.

7. The ultimate goal of social development is about improving and enhancing the quality of life of all people. It requires democratic institutions, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, increased and equal economic opportunities, the rule of law, promotion of respect for cultural diversity and rights of persons belonging to minorities and an active involvement of the civil society. Empowerment and participation are essential for democracy, harmony and

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social development. All members of society should have the opportunity and be able to exercise the right and responsibility to take an active part in the affairs of the community in which they live. Gender equality and equity and the full participation of women in all economic, social and political activities is essential. The obstacles that have limited the access of women to decision-making, education, health care services and productive employment must be eliminated and an equitable partnership between men and women be established, involving men's full responsibility in family life. It is necessary to change the prevailing social paradigm of gender to usher in a new generation of women and men working together to create a more humane world order.

8. Against this background, we will promote an enabling environment based on a people-centred approach to sustainable development, with the following features:

- Broad based participation and involvement of civil society in the formulation and implementation of decisions determining the functioning and well-being of our societies;

- Broad based patterns of sustained economic growth and sustainable development and the integration of population into economic and development strategies which will speed up the pace of sustainable development and poverty eradication and contribute to the achievement of population objectives and an improved quality of life of the population;

- **[Fair/more]** equitable and non-discriminatory distribution of the benefits of growth among social groups and countries and expanded access to productive resources for people living in poverty;

- An interaction of market forces conducive to efficiency and social development;

- Public policies that seek to overcome socially divisive disparities and that respect pluralism and diversity;

- A supportive and stable political and legal framework that promotes the mutually reinforcing relationship between democracy, development and all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

- Political and social processes that avoid exclusion while respecting pluralism and diversity, including religious and cultural diversity;

- A strengthened role for the **[family/in its various forms/family in accordance with principle 9 of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development]**, community and civil society;

- Expanded access to knowledge, technology, education, health care services and information;

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- Increased solidarity, partnership and cooperation at all levels;
- Public policies that empower people to enjoy good health and productivity throughout their lives;
- Protection and conservation of the natural environment in the context of people-centred sustainable development.

ACTIONS

A. A favourable national and international economic environment

9. The promotion of mutually reinforcing broad based sustained economic growth and sustainable development on a global scale, as well as growth in production, non-discriminatory and multilateral rule-based international trading system, employment and incomes as a basis for social development **[requires]** the following actions at the national **[and/or]** international level:

(a) Promoting the establishment of an open, equitable, cooperative and mutually beneficial international economic environment;

(b) Implementing sound and stable macroeconomic and sectoral policies which encourage broad-based, sustained economic growth and development that is sustainable and equitable, generate jobs, and that are geared towards eradicating poverty, reducing social and economic inequalities and exclusion;

(c) Promoting enterprise and productive investment and expanded access to open and dynamic markets in the context of an open, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, predictable, transparent and multilateral rule based international trading system and technologies for all people, particularly those living in poverty and the disadvantaged, as well as the least developed countries;

(d) Implementing fully and as scheduled the Final Act of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations;

(e) Refraining from any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that creates obstacles to trade relations among states, impedes the full realization of social and economic development and hinders the well-being of the population in the affected countries;

[(f) Reorienting agricultural policies and adopting appropriate forms of agricultural support in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, in order to take advantage of the new market opportunities opened up by the Uruguay Round;]

(g) Promoting the coordination of macroeconomic policies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels in order to promote an international financial system which is more conducive to stable and sustained economic growth and sustainable development through, inter alia, a higher degree of stability in financial markets, reducing the risk of financial crisis, improving the stability of exchange rates, stabilizing and striving for low real interest rates in the long run and reducing uncertainties of financial flows;

(h) Establishing, strengthening or rehabilitating, inter alia, through capacity building, where necessary, national and international structures, processes and resources available to ensure appropriate consideration and coordination of economic policy, with special emphasis on social development;

(i) Promoting or strengthening capacity-building in developing countries, particularly in Africa and the least developed countries, to develop social activities;

(j) Ensuring that, in accordance with Agenda 21, and the various consensus agreements, conventions and programmes of action adopted in the framework of follow-up of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, broad-based, sustained economic growth and sustainable development respects the need to protect the environment and the interests of future generations;

(k) Ensuring that the special needs and vulnerabilities of small island developing states are adequately addressed in order to enable them to achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development with equity by implementing the programme of action for the sustainable development of small island developing States.

10. To ensure that the benefits of global economic growth are **[more]** equitably distributed among countries the following actions are **[required/necessary]** **[, inter alia,]** **[at the international level:]**

(a) Continuing efforts to reduce **[and/or eliminate]** **[on a case by case basis]** the debt burden of developing countries, **[particularly the poorest among them,]** reduce trade barriers and promote expanded access for all countries to markets, in the context of an open, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, predictable, transparent and multilateral rule based international trading system, as well as for productive investment, technologies and know-how;

(b) Strengthening and improving technical and financial assistance to developing countries to promote sustainable development and overcome hindrances to their full and effective participation in the world economy;

(c) Changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns, taking into account that the major cause of the continued deterioration of the global environment is the unsustainable pattern of consumption and production, particularly in industrialized countries, which is a matter of grave concern, aggravating poverty and imbalances;

(d) Elaborating policies to enable developing countries to take advantage of expanded international trading opportunities in the context of the full implementation of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations; and assisting countries, particularly in Africa, which are not currently in a position to benefit fully from the liberalization of the world economy;

(e) Supporting the efforts of developing countries, particularly those heavily dependent on commodity exports, to diversify their economies.

11. Within the framework of support to developing countries, giving priority to the needs of Africa and the least developed countries, the following actions are necessary at the **[national and]** international level:

[(a) Implementing structural reform policies and effective development strategies that establish a more favourable climate for social development, trade and investments, give priority to human resource development and promote the further development of democratic institutions;]

[(b) Creating, in African countries and least developed countries, an enabling environment that attracts foreign and domestic direct investment, encourages savings, induces the return of flight capital and promotes the full participation by the private sector, including non-governmental organizations, in the growth and development process;]

(c) Supporting economic reforms to improve the functioning of commodity markets and commodity diversification efforts through appropriate mechanisms, bilateral and multilateral financing and technical cooperation, including South-South cooperation, as well as through trade and partnership;

(d) Continuing to support the commodity diversification efforts of Africa and the least developed countries, inter alia, by providing technical and financial assistance for the preparatory phase of their commodity diversification projects and programmes;

[(e) (alternative 1) [Achieving/Seeking to achieve] an effective, comprehensive, equitable, development-oriented and durable solution to the external debt problem by taking urgent action and measures, inter alia, [wherever possible] [through] the cancellation and/or reduction of [bilateral/ various types of] debt [on a case-by-case basis and respectful of the principle of burden sharing and equal treatment among creditors] [of the severely indebted low-income countries], [on a case-by-case basis] taking into account the mid-term review [, in 1995,] of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s [and no later than 1996] [, in order to help them to achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development without falling into a new debt crisis]];

[(e) (alternative 2) Achieving a realistic, comprehensive and sustainable solution to the external debt problem by considering urgent action and measures, inter alia, the reduction of bilateral debt;]

(f) Supporting the development of strategies adopted by these countries and working in partnership to ensure the implementation of the measures for their development;

(g) Taking appropriate actions, consistent with the Final Act of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, in particular the decision on measures in favour of the least developed countries and the decision on measures concerning the possible negative effects of the reform programme on least developed countries and net food importing developing countries, in order to give these countries special attention with the view to enhancing their participation in the multilateral trading system and to mitigating any adverse effects of the implementation of the Uruguay Round, while stressing the need to support the African countries so they can benefit fully from the results of the Uruguay Round;

[(h) (alternative 1) Increasing [the impact of/the proportion of] official development assistance, both [in total/overall/targeted to] and for social programmes, [without reducing the resources allocated to other sectors/in support of government efforts to reorient a larger share of national resources towards social development goals.]

[(h) (alternative 2) Increasing the impact and the proportion of official development assistance targeted to social programmes in support of government efforts to reorient a larger share of national resources towards social development goals.]

[(h) (alternative 3) Increasing financial resource flows to developing countries, both in total and for social programmes, and the fulfilment of the commitment by developed countries which have not yet done so, the agreed upon United Nations target of 0.7 per cent of GNP for ODA and 0.15 per cent to the least developed countries, no later than the year 2000, and without reducing the resources allocated to other sectors.]

[(h) (alternative 4) Increasing the effectiveness of official development assistance, both overall and for social programmes.]

12. Making economic growth and the interaction of market forces more conducive to social development **[requires]** the following actions **[are necessary]** at the national **[and/or]** international level:

(a) Implementing measures to open market opportunities for all, especially people living in poverty and the disadvantaged, and to encourage individuals and communities to take economic initiatives, innovate and invest in activities that contribute to social development while promoting broad based sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

(b) Improving, broadening and regulating to the extent necessary the functioning of markets to promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development and stability and long-term investment, fair competition and ethical conduct, and adopting and implementing policies to promote equitable distribution of the benefits of growth and protect crucial social services, *inter alia*, through complementing market mechanisms and mitigating any negative impacts posed by market forces, and implementing complementary policies to foster social development, while dismantling, consistent with the provisions of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, protectionist measures, and to integrate social and economic development;

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(c) Establishing an open market policy that reduces barriers to entry promotes transparency of markets through, inter alia, better access to information and widens the choices available to consumers;

(d) Promoting greater access to technology and technical assistance, as well as corresponding know-how, especially for micro-enterprises, small and medium-sized enterprises in all countries, particularly in developing countries;

(e) Encouraging transnational and national corporations to operate in a framework of respect for the environment while complying with national laws and legislation, and in accordance with international agreements and conventions, and with proper consideration of the social and cultural impact of their activities;

(f) Adopting and implementing long-term strategies to ensure substantial, well-directed public and private investment in the construction and renewal of basic infrastructure, which will benefit people living in poverty and generate employment;

(g) Ensuring substantial public and private investment in human resource development, and for capacity building in health and education as well as in empowerment and participation, especially for people living in poverty or suffering from social exclusion;

(h) Supporting and paying special attention to the development of small scale and micro **[enterprises]**, particularly in rural areas, as well as subsistence economies, to secure their safe interaction with larger economies;

(i) Supporting the economic activities of indigenous people, improving their conditions and development, and securing their safe interaction with larger economies;

(j) Supporting institutions, programmes and systems to disseminate practical information to promote social progress.

13. Ensuring that fiscal systems and other public policies are geared towards poverty eradication and do not generate socially divisive disparities **[requires]** **[inter alia,]** the following actions at the national **[and [and/or] international level]**:

(a) Enacting rules and regulations and creating a moral and ethical climate that prevents all forms of corruption and exploitation of individuals, families and groups;

(b) Promoting fair competition and ethical responsibility in business activities and enhancing cooperation and interaction among government, the private sector and civil society;

(c) Ensuring that fiscal and monetary policies promote savings and long-term investment in productive activities in accordance with national priorities and policies;

[(d) **Taking measures to reduce inefficiencies and inequities arising from [illegitimate/excessive] accumulation of wealth [by speculative or windfall gains] [including through the use of appropriate taxation] [in accordance with national priorities and policies;]]**

(e) Re-examining the distribution of subsidies, inter alia, between industry and agriculture, urban and rural areas, private and public consumption, to ensure that subsidy systems benefit people living in poverty, especially the vulnerable, and reduce disparities;

(f) Promoting international agreements which address effectively issues of double taxation, as well as cross-border tax evasion, in accordance with priorities and policies of states concerned, while improving the efficiency and fairness of tax collection;

(g) Assisting developing countries, upon their request, to establish efficient and fair tax systems by strengthening the administrative capacity for tax assessment, collection, and tax evader prosecution, to support a more progressive tax system;

(h) Assisting the countries with economies in transition to establish fair and effective systems of taxation on a solid legal basis contributing to socio-economic reforms under way in these countries.

B. A favourable national and international political and legal environment

14. To ensure that the political framework supports the objectives of social development the following actions are **[required]** at the national level:

(a) Ensuring that governmental institutions and agencies responsible for the planning and implementation of social policies have the status, resources and information necessary to give high priority to social development in policy-making;

(b) Ensuring the rule of law and democracy and the existence of rules and processes to create transparency and accountability for all public and private institutions and to prevent and combat all forms of corruption, sustained through education and the development of attitudes and values promoting responsibility, solidarity and a strengthened civil society;

(c) Eliminating all forms of discrimination, while developing and encouraging educational programmes and media campaigns to that end;

(d) Encouraging decentralization of public institutions and services to a level which, compatible with the overall responsibilities, priorities and objectives of governments, responds properly to local needs and facilitates local participation;

(e) Establishing conditions for the social partners to organize and function **[freely and responsibly]** with guaranteed freedom of expression and association and the right to engage in collective bargaining and to promote mutual interests, **[in accordance with national laws and regulations]**;

[(f) Establishing similar conditions for professional organizations and artisans' organizations, including the right to engage in transactions;]

(g) Promoting political and social processes inclusive of all members of society and respectful of political pluralism and cultural diversity;

(h) Strengthening the capacities and opportunities for all people, especially those who are disadvantaged or vulnerable, to enhance their own economic and social development, to establish and maintain organizations representing their interests and to be involved in the planning and implementation of government policies and programmes by which they will be directly affected;

(i) Ensuring full involvement and participation of women at all levels in the decision-making and implementation process; and in the economic and political mechanisms through which policies are formulated and implemented;

(j) Removing all legal impediments to the ownership of all means of production and property by men and women;

[(k) Creating the appropriate political and legal environment to address the root causes of movements of refugees, to allow their voluntary return in safety and dignity; measures should also be taken, in cooperation with the international community, as appropriate, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, other international instruments and relevant United Nations resolutions, to create conditions for [refugees and] internally displaced persons including those displaced as a result of armed conflict, and terrorist interventions, social strife and natural or man-made disasters, to voluntarily return to their places of origin.]

15. **[Social development [requires] that all human rights [including the right to development] and fundamental freedoms be promoted and protected through the following actions:]**

(a) Encouraging ratification of existing international human rights conventions that have not been ratified; and implementing the provisions of conventions and covenants that have been ratified;

[(b) (alternative 1) Promoting respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms at all levels, including the right to development, through appropriate legislation, dissemination of information, education and training and the provision of effective mechanisms and remedies for enforcement, *inter alia*, through the establishment or strengthening of national institutions responsible for monitoring and enforcement;]

[(b) (alternative 2) Reaffirming and promoting all human rights and fundamental freedoms, which are universal, indivisible, interdependent, interrelated, including the right to development, and striving to ensure that they are respected, protected and observed through appropriate legislation,

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dissemination of information, education and training and the provision of effective mechanisms and remedies for enforcement, inter alia, through the establishment or strengthening of national institutions responsible for monitoring and enforcement;]

[(c) Reaffirming that the right to development is an inalienable human right, by virtue of which all human beings and all peoples have the right to participate and to contribute to economic, social, cultural and political development, and that all human beings have the responsibility of development, individually and collectively, the states have the primary responsibility of creating the national and international conditions favourable for the realization of the right to development;]

[(d) Ensuring the realization of the right to development through effective development policies at the national level, as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level, since sustained action is indispensable for assuring a more rapid development of developing countries;]

(e) Promoting and protecting the human rights of women and removing all obstacles to full equality and equity between women and men in political, civil, economic, social and cultural life;

(f) Special attention should be given to promoting and protecting the rights of the child, with special attention to the rights of the girl child, inter alia, by encouraging the ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s adopted at the World Summit for Children;

(g) Providing all people, in particular the vulnerable and disadvantaged in society, with the benefit of an independent, fair and effective system of justice and ensuring access for all to competent sources of advice about legal rights and obligations;

(h) Taking effective measures to bring to an end all de jure and de facto discrimination against persons with disabilities;

(i) Strengthening the ability of civil society and the community to actively participate in the planning, decision making and implementation of social development programmes, by education and access to resources;

(j) Promoting and protecting the rights of individuals in order to prevent and eliminate situations of domestic discrimination and violence.

16. An open political and economic system requires access by all to knowledge, education and information by:

(a) Strengthening the educational system at all levels as well as other means of acquiring skills and knowledge and ensuring universal access to basic education and life-long educational opportunities, while removing **[economic and]** socio-cultural barriers to the exercise of the right to education;

(b) Raising public awareness and promoting gender sensitivity education to eliminate all obstacles to full gender equality and equity;

(c) Enabling and encouraging access by all to a wide range of information and opinion on matters of general interest through the mass media and other means;

(d) Encouraging education systems and communication media to raise people's understanding and awareness of all aspects of social integration including gender sensitivity, non-violence, tolerance and solidarity, and respect for the diversity of cultures and interests **[, while discouraging the gratuitous depiction of explicit sex, violence and cruelty in the media]**;

(e) Improving the reliability, validity, utility and public availability of statistical and other information on social development and gender issues, including the effective use of gender disaggregated statistics collected at the national, regional and international levels, including through support to academic and research institutions.

17. International support for national efforts **[within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations and principles of international law]** to promote a favourable political and legal environment **[requires/can include]** the following actions:

[(a) Upholding the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States, as well as non-interference in their internal affairs, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;]

(b) Making use, as appropriate, of the capacity of the United Nations and other relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to prevent and resolve armed conflicts and promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom;

(c) Coordinating policies, actions and legal instruments and/or measures to combat terrorism, all forms of extremist violence, illicit arms trafficking, organized crime and illicit drugs problem, money laundering and related crimes, trafficking in women, adolescents, children, **[migrants,]** and human organs, and other activities contrary to human rights and human dignity;

[(d) (alternative 1) Removing all obstacles to the full realization of the right to development for every human person and all countries, in particular developing countries, through the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development;]

[(d) (alternative 2) Working to [remove/eliminate] all obstacles to the full realization of the right to development for every human person in all countries, particularly in developing countries, _inter alia_, through the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;]

[(e) Urging states to cooperate with each other in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development of developing countries, by taking

measures separately and jointly, for formulating the international policies of development with a view to facilitate the full realization of the right to development;]

[(f) Complementing the efforts accomplished by developing countries through an efficacious international assistance in order to promote and support global economic and social development;]

[(g) Removing the obstacles to the realization of the right of self-determination to peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation, which adversely affect their social and economic development;]

(h) Ensuring that **[the centrality of the human person in sustainable development/human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development and]** the priority to be attached to social development are fully reflected in the programmes and activities of regional and international organizations;

(i) Reinforcing **[within existing resources]** the capacity of relevant national, regional and international organizations, within their mandates, to promote **[and monitor]** the implementation of all human rights, **[including the right to development]** and the elimination of all forms of discrimination;

(j) Elaborating policies, within the mandates and functions of the various international institutions, that will support the objectives of social development and contribute to institutional development through capacity-building and other forms of cooperation;

(k) Strengthening the capacities of Governments, the private sector and civil society, especially in Africa and the least developed countries to enable them to meet their specific and global responsibilities;

(l) Reinforcing the capacities of Governments, the private sector and civil society in the countries in transition with the aim of helping them in the process of transforming their economies from centrally planned to market-oriented ones.

CHAPTER II. ERADICATION OF POVERTY

BASIS FOR ACTION AND OBJECTIVES

18. Over 1 billion people in the world today live under unacceptable conditions of poverty, mostly in developing countries, and particularly in rural areas of low-income Asia and the Pacific, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the least developed countries.

19. Poverty has various manifestations, including lack of income and productive resources sufficient to ensure sustainable livelihoods; hunger and malnutrition; ill health; limited or lack of access to education and other basic services; increased morbidity and mortality from illness; homelessness and inadequate housing; unsafe environments; and social discrimination and exclusion. It is

also characterized by a lack of participation in decision-making and in civil, social and cultural life. It occurs in all countries: as mass poverty in many developing countries, pockets of poverty amidst wealth in developed countries, loss of livelihoods as a result of economic recession, sudden poverty as a result of disaster or conflict, the poverty of low-wage workers, and the utter destitution of people who fall outside of family support systems, social institutions and safety nets. Women bear a disproportionate burden of poverty, and children growing up in poverty are often permanently disadvantaged. Older people, people with disabilities, indigenous people, refugees and internally displaced persons are also particularly vulnerable to poverty. Furthermore, poverty in its various forms represents a barrier for communication and access to services as well as a major health risk, and people living in poverty are particularly vulnerable to the consequences of disaster and conflicts. Absolute poverty is a condition characterized by severe deprivation of basic human needs including food, safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, health, shelter, education and information. It depends not only on income, but also on access to social services.

20. There is general agreement that persistent widespread poverty as well as serious social and gender inequities have significant influences on, and are in turn influenced by, demographic parameters such as population growth, structure and distribution. There is also general agreement that unsustainable consumption and production patterns are contributing to the unsustainable use of natural resources and environmental degradation as well as to the reinforcement of social inequities and of poverty with the above-mentioned consequences for demographic parameters.

21. Urban poverty is rapidly increasing in pace with overall urbanization. It is a growing phenomenon in all countries and regions, and often poses special problems such as overcrowding, contaminated water and bad sanitation, unsafe shelter, crime and additional social problems. An increasing number of low income urban households are female-maintained.

[22. Among people living in poverty gender disparities are marked especially in the increase in female maintained households. With increasing population the numbers of youth living in poverty will increase significantly. Therefore, specific measures are needed to address the juvenilization and feminization of poverty.]

23. **[Poverty has its origins in political, legal, economic, cultural and social structures]**. Poverty is a complex multidimensional problem with origins in both the national and international domains. No uniform solution can be found for global application. Rather, country-specific programmes to tackle poverty and international efforts supporting national efforts, as well as the parallel process of creating a supportive international environment, are crucial for a solution to this problem. Poverty is inseparably linked to lack of control over resources, including land, skills, knowledge, capital and social connections. Without those resources, people are easily neglected by policy makers and have limited access to institutions, markets, employment and public services. The eradication of poverty cannot be accomplished through anti-poverty programmes alone, but will require democratic participation and changes in economic structures in order to ensure access for all to resources, opportunities and

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public services, to undertake policies geared to more equitable distribution of wealth and income, to provide social protection for those who cannot support themselves, and to assist people confronted by unforeseen catastrophe, whether individual or collective, natural, social or technological.

24. The eradication of poverty requires universal access to economic opportunities which will promote sustainable livelihood and basic social services as well as special efforts to facilitate access to opportunities and services for the disadvantaged. People living in poverty and vulnerable groups must be empowered through organization and participation in all aspects of political, economic and social life, and in particular in the planning and implementation of policies that affect them and thus enabling them to become genuine partners in development.

25. There is therefore an urgent need for:

- National strategies to reduce substantially overall poverty, including measures to remove the structural barriers which prevent people leaving poverty, with specific time-bound commitments to eradicate absolute poverty by a target date to be specified by each country in its national context;
- Stronger international cooperation and the support of international institutions to assist countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty and to provide basic social protection and services;
- Development of methods to measure all forms of poverty, especially absolute poverty, and to assess and monitor the circumstances of those at risk, within the national context;
- Regular national reviews of economic policies and national budgets to orient them towards eradicating poverty and reducing inequalities;
- Expanded opportunities to enable people living in poverty to enhance their overall capacities and improve their economic condition **[in a sustainable manner]**;
- Human resource development and improved infrastructural facilities;
- Comprehensive provision for the basic needs of all;
- Policies ensuring that all people have adequate economic and social protection during unemployment, ill health, maternity, disability and old age;
- **[Policies that sustain family stability while respecting their diversity]**;

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- Mobilization of both the public and the private sectors, more developed areas, educational and academic institutions and non-governmental organizations to assist poverty-stricken areas.

ACTIONS

A. The formulation of integrated strategies

26. Governments should give greater focus to public efforts to eradicate absolute poverty and to reduce substantially overall poverty by:

(a) Promoting sustained economic growth, in the context of sustainable development, and social progress require that growth be broadly based, offering equal opportunities to all people. All countries should recognize their common but differentiated responsibilities. The developed countries acknowledge the responsibility they bear in the international pursuit of sustainable development, and should continue to improve their efforts to promote sustained economic growth and to narrow imbalances in a manner that can benefit all countries, particularly the developing countries;

(b) Formulating or strengthening, preferably by the year 1996, and implementing national poverty eradication plans to address the structural causes of poverty, encompassing action on the local, national, subregional, regional and international levels. These plans should establish, within each national context, strategies and affordable time-bound goals and targets for the substantial reduction of overall poverty and the eradication of absolute poverty. In the context of the national plans, particular attention should be given to employment creation as a means to eradicate poverty; appropriate attention to health and education and higher priority to basic social services; household income; and promoting access to productive assets and economic opportunities;

(c) Identifying the livelihood systems, survival strategies and self-help organizations of people living in poverty and working with these organizations to develop programmes for combating poverty that build on those efforts ensuring the full participation of the people concerned and responding to their actual needs;

(d) Elaboration at the national level of the measurements, criteria and indicators for determining the extent and distribution of absolute poverty. Each country should develop such a precise definition and assessment of absolute poverty, preferably in 1996, the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty;

(e) Establishing policies, objectives and measurable targets to enhance and broaden women's economic opportunities and access to productive resources, particularly women who have no source of income;

[(f) Promoting effective enjoyment by all of economic, social, cultural and civil rights and access to existing social protection and public services by, in particular, through encouraging the ratification and ensuring full

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implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;]

(g) Eliminating injustice and obstacles which women are faced with and encouraging and strengthening the participation of women in taking decisions and in implementing them, and their access to productive resources and land ownership as well as their right to inherit goods;

(h) Encouraging and supporting local community development projects which foster the skill, self-reliance and self-confidence of people living in poverty and which facilitate their active participation in efforts to eradicate poverty.

27. Governments are urged to integrate goals and targets for combating poverty into overall economic and social policies and planning at the local, national and, where appropriate, regional levels by:

(a) Analysing policies and programmes, including those relating to macroeconomic stability, structural adjustment programmes, taxation, investments, employment, markets and all relevant sectors of the economy, with respect to their impact on poverty **[, family stability]** and inequality and assess their gender implications and adjust them as appropriate to promote more equitable distribution of productive assets, wealth, opportunities, income and services;

(b) Redesigning public investment policies relating to infrastructure development, management of natural resources and human resource development to benefit people living in poverty and are compatible with the long-term improvement of their livelihood;

(c) Ensuring that development policies benefit low-income communities and rural and agricultural development;

(d) Selecting wherever possible development schemes which do not displace local populations; designing an appropriate policy and legal framework to compensate the displaced for losses, to help them to re-establish their livelihoods and to promote their recovery from social and cultural disruption;

(e) Designing and implementing environmental protection and resource management measures taking into account the needs of people living in poverty and vulnerable groups in accordance with Agenda 21 and the various consensus agreements, conventions and programmes of action adopted in the framework of the follow-up of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(f) Establishing and strengthening, as appropriate, mechanisms for the coordination of efforts to combat poverty, in collaboration with civil society, including the private sector, and developing integrated inter-sectoral and intra-governmental responses for such purposes.

28. People living in poverty and their organizations should be empowered by:

(a) Involving them fully in the setting of targets and in the design, implementation, monitoring and assessment of national strategies and programmes for poverty eradication and community based development, and ensuring that these programmes reflect their priorities;

(b) Integrating gender concerns in planning and implementation of policies and programmes for empowerment of women;

(c) Ensuring that policies and programmes affecting people living in poverty respect their dignity and culture and make full use of their knowledge, skills and resourcefulness;

(d) Strengthening education at all levels and ensuring access to education to people living in poverty, in particular to primary education and other basic education opportunities;

(e) Encouraging and assisting people living in poverty to organize so that their representatives can participate in economic and social policy-making and work more effectively with governmental, non-governmental and other relevant institutions to obtain the services and opportunities they need;

(f) Placing special emphasis on capacity-building and community-based management;

(g) Educating people about their rights, the political system and the availability of programmes.

29. There is a need periodically to monitor, assess and share information on performance on poverty eradication plans, evaluate policies to combat poverty and promote understanding and awareness of poverty and its causes and consequences. This could be done, by governments, inter alia, through:

(a) Developing, updating and disseminating specific and agreed gender disaggregated indicators of poverty and vulnerability, including income, wealth, nutrition, physical and mental health, education, literacy, unemployment, social exclusion and isolation, **[family stability/stability of families]**, homelessness, landlessness and other factors, as well as indicators of the national and international causal factors underlying poverty; for this purpose, gathering comprehensive and comparable data, disaggregated by ethnicity, gender, language groupings, regions and economic and social sectors;

(b) Monitoring and assessing the achievement of goals and targets agreed to in international fora in the area of social development; evaluating, quantitatively and qualitatively, changes in poverty *levels, and persistence of* poverty, and vulnerability to poverty, particularly concerning household income levels and access to resources and services; and assessing the effectiveness of poverty eradication strategies, based on the priorities and perceptions of households living in poverty and low-income communities;

(c) Strengthening international data collection and statistical systems to support countries in monitoring social development goals; and encouraging the expansion of international databases to incorporate socially beneficial activities not included in available data, such as women's unremunerated work and contributions to society, the informal economy, and sustainable livelihoods;

(d) Mobilizing public awareness, in particular through educational institutions, non-governmental organizations and the media, to enable society to prioritize the struggle against poverty while focusing attention on progress or failure in the pursuit of defined goals and targets;

(e) Mobilizing the resources of universities and research institutions to improve the understanding of the causes of poverty and their solutions, as well as the impact of structural adjustment measures on people living in poverty and the effectiveness of anti-poverty strategies and programmes, strengthening the capacity for social science research in developing countries and integrating as appropriate the results of research into decision-making processes;

(f) Facilitating and promoting exchange of knowledge and experience, especially among developing countries inter alia, through subregional and regional organizations.

30. Members of the international community should, bilaterally or through multilateral organizations, foster an enabling environment for poverty eradication by:

(a) Coordinating policies and programmes to support the measures being taken in the developing countries, particularly in Africa and the least developed countries, to eradicate poverty, provide remunerative work and strengthen social integration in order to meet basic social development goals and targets;

(b) Promoting international cooperation to assist developing countries, at their request, in their efforts, in particular at the community level, towards achieving gender equality and empowerment of women;

(c) Strengthening the capacities of developing countries to monitor progress on national poverty eradication plans and to assess the impact of national and international policies and programmes on people living in poverty and address their negative impacts;

(d) Strengthening the capacity of countries with economies in transition to develop their social protection systems and social policies, inter alia, for the reduction of poverty;

(e) Addressing the special needs of small island developing states with respect to eradicating poverty and meeting poverty eradication goals and targets within the context of social development programmes that reflect their national priorities;

(f) Addressing the problems faced by the landlocked countries in eradicating poverty and supporting their efforts aimed at social development;

(g) Supporting societies disrupted by conflict in their efforts to rebuild their social protection systems and eradicate poverty;

[Note: It was suggested that the following two subparagraphs should be discussed in the context of Chapter V.]

[(h) Approving at the level of the General Assembly during its fiftieth session the first United Nations decade for the eradication of poverty following the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty (1996);]

[(i) Elaborating in the framework of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty a global programme of action to combat poverty for adoption by the fifty-first session of the General Assembly and to be implemented during the first United Nations decade for the eradication of poverty.]

B. Improved access to productive resources and infrastructure

31. The opportunities for income generation, diversification of activities and increase of productivity in low-income and poor communities should be enhanced by:

(a) Improving availability and accessibility of transportation, communication, power and energy services at the local or community level, in particular for isolated, remote and marginalized communities;

(b) Ensuring that investments in infrastructure support sustainable development at the local or community levels;

(c) Emphasizing the need for developing countries that are heavily dependent on primary commodities to continue to promote a domestic policy and an institutional environment that encourage diversification and enhance competitiveness;

(d) Supporting the importance of commodity diversification as a means to increase export revenues of developing countries and to improve their competitiveness in the face of the persistent instability in the price of some primary commodities and the general deterioration in the terms of trade;

(e) Promoting, including by micro-enterprises, rural non-farm production and service activities, such as agro-processing, sales and services of agricultural equipment and inputs, irrigation, credit services and other income-generating activities, inter alia, through supportive laws and administrative measures, credit policies and technical and administrative training;

(f) Strengthening and improving financial and technical assistance for community-based development and self-help programmes and strengthening cooperation among Governments, community organizations, cooperatives, formal and informal banking institutions, private enterprises and international agencies, with the aim of mobilizing local savings, promoting the creation of local financial networks, and increasing the availability of credit and market information to small entrepreneurs, small farmers and other low-income self-employed workers, with particular efforts to ensure availability of such services to women;

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(g) Strengthening organizations of small farmers, landless tenants and labourers, other small producers, fisherfolk, community-based and workers' cooperatives, especially those run by women, inter alia in order to improve market access and increase productivity, provide inputs and technical advice, promote cooperation in production and marketing operations, and strengthen participation in the planning and implementation of rural development;

(h) Promoting national and international assistance in providing economic viable alternatives for social groups especially farmers involved in the cultivation and processing of crops used for the illegal drug trade;

(i) Improving the competitiveness of natural products with environmental advantages and the impact that this could have on promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns and strengthening and improving financial and technical assistance to the developing countries for research and development of such products;

(j) Promoting comprehensive rural development, including by land reform, land improvement and economic diversification;

(k) Economic opportunities for rural women should be improved through elimination of legal, social, cultural and practical obstacles to women's participation in economic activities and ensuring that women have equal access to productive resources.

32. Rural poverty should be addressed by:

(a) Expanding and improving land ownership through measures such as land reform and improving the security of land tenure, and ensuring the equal right of women and men in this respect, developing new agricultural land, promoting fair land rents, making land transfers more efficient and fair, and adjudicating land disputes;

(b) Promoting fair wages and improving the conditions of agricultural labour, and increasing the access of small farmers to water, credit, extension services and appropriate technology, including for women, persons with disabilities and vulnerable groups on the basis of equality;

(c) Strengthening measures and actions designed to improve the social, economic and living conditions in rural areas and thereby discourage rural exodus;

(d) Promoting opportunities for small farmers and other agricultural, forestry and fishery workers, on terms which respect sustainable development;

(e) Improving access to markets and market information to enable small producers to obtain better prices for their products and pay better prices for the materials they need;

(f) Protecting the **[traditional]** rights to land and other resources of pastoralists, fishery workers and nomadic and indigenous people and strengthening land management in areas of pastoral or nomadic activity, building

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on traditional communal practices, controlling encroachment by others, and developing improved systems of range management and access to water, markets, credit, animal production, veterinary services, health including health services, education and information;

(g) Promoting education, research and development on farming systems and small-holder cultivation and animal husbandry techniques, particularly in environmentally fragile areas, building on local and traditional practices of sustainable agriculture and taking particular advantage of women's knowledge;

(h) Strengthening agricultural training and extension services to promote more effective use of existing technologies and indigenous knowledge systems and to disseminate new technologies, in order to reach both men and women farmers and other agricultural workers, including through the hiring of more women as extension workers;

(i) Promoting infrastructural and institutional investment in small-scale farming in resource-poor regions, so that small-scale farmers can fully explore market opportunities, within the context of liberalization.

33. Access to credit by small rural or urban producers, landless farmers and other people with low or no income should be substantially improved, with special attention to the needs of women, and disadvantaged and vulnerable groups by:

(a) Reviewing national legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks that restrict access of people living in poverty, especially women, to credit on reasonable terms;

(b) Promoting realistic targets for access to affordable credit where appropriate;

(c) Providing incentives, improving access to and strengthening the capacities of the organized credit system to deliver credit and related services to people living in poverty and vulnerable groups;

(d) Expanding financial networks, building on existing community networks, promoting attractive opportunities for savings and ensuring equitable access to credit at the local level.

34. Urban poverty should further be addressed by:

(a) Promoting and strengthening micro enterprises, new small businesses, cooperative enterprises, and expanded market and other employment opportunities and, where appropriate, facilitating the transition from the informal to the formal sector;

(b) Promoting sustainable livelihoods for people living in urban poverty through the provision or expansion of access to training, education, and other employment assistance services, in particular for women, and youth, the unemployed and the underemployed;

(c) Promoting public and private investments to improve for the deprived the overall human environment and infrastructure, in particular housing, water and sanitation and public transportation;

(d) Ensuring that strategies for shelter give special attention to women and children, bearing in mind the perspectives of women in the development of these strategies;

(e) Promoting social and other essential services, including, where necessary, assistance for people to move to areas offering better employment opportunities, housing, education, health and other social services;

(f) Ensuring safety through effective criminal justice administration and protective measures responsive to the needs and concerns of the community;

(g) Strengthening the role and expanding the means of municipal authorities, non-governmental organizations, universities and other educational institutions, businesses and community organizations, enabling them to be more actively involved in urban planning, policy development and implementation;

(h) Ensuring special measures to protect the displaced, the homeless, street children, unaccompanied minors and children in special and difficult circumstances, orphans, adolescents and single mothers, people with disabilities and older persons and to ensure they are integrated into their communities.

C. Meeting the basic human needs of all

35. Governments in partnership with all other development actors in particular organizations of and people living in poverty should cooperate to meet the basic human needs of all, including people living in poverty and vulnerable groups, by:

(a) Ensuring universal access to basic social services, with particular efforts to facilitate access by people living in poverty and vulnerable groups;

(b) Creating public awareness that the satisfaction of basic human needs is an essential element of poverty reduction; these needs are closely interrelated and comprise nutrition, health, water and sanitation, education, employment, housing and participation in cultural and social life;

(c) Ensuring that women of all ages and children **[taking into account the rights and responsibilities of parents]** have full and equal access to social services, especially education, legal services and health-care services;

(d) Ensuring that due priority is given and adequate resources made available, at the national, regional and international levels, to combat the threat to individual and public health, by the rapid spread of HIV/AIDS globally, and the re-emergence of major diseases such as tuberculosis, malaria, onchocerciasis (river blindness) and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular, cholera;

(e) Taking particular actions to enhance the productive capacities of indigenous people, ensuring their full and equal access to social services and participation in the elaboration and implementation of policies that affect their development, with full respect of their cultures, languages, traditions, forms of social organizations as well as their own initiatives;

(f) Providing appropriate social services to enable vulnerable people and people living in poverty to improve their lives, to exercise their rights and to participate fully in all social, economic and political activities and to contribute to social and economic development;

(g) Recognizing that improving people's health is inseparably linked to sound environment;

(h) Ensuring physical access to all basic social services for persons who are older, disabled or homebound;

(i) Ensuring that people living in poverty have full and equal access to justice, including knowledge of their rights and as appropriate through the provision of free legal assistance. The legal system should be made more sensitive and responsive to the needs and special circumstances of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, to ensure the strong and independent administration of justice;

(j) Promoting full restorative services in particular for those who require institutional care or are homebound and a comprehensive array of community-based, long-term care services for those facing loss of independence.

36. Governments should implement the commitments that have been made to meet the basic needs of all, **[with the [appropriate] assistance of the international community,]** including, inter alia, the following:

(a) By the year 2000, universal access to basic education and completion of primary education by at least 80 per cent of primary school-age children; closing the gender gap in primary and secondary school education by the year 2005; universal primary education in all countries before the year 2015;

(b) By the year 2000, life expectancy will not be less than 60 years in any country;

(c) By the year 2000, reduction of mortality rates of infants and children under five years of age by one third of the 1990 level, or 50 to 70 per 1,000 live births, whichever is less; by the year 2015 aim to achieve an infant mortality rate below 35 per 1,000 live births and an under-five mortality rate below 45 per 1,000;

(d) By the year 2000, a reduction in maternal mortality by one half of the 1990 level; by the year 2015, a further reduction by one half;

(e) Achieving food security by ensuring a safe and nutritionally adequate food supply, both at the national and the international level, a reasonable degree of stability in the supply of food as well as physical, social and

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economic access to enough food for all, while reaffirming that food should not be used as a tool for political pressure;

(f) By the year 2000, reduction of severe and moderate malnutrition among children under five years of age by half of the 1990 level;

(g) By the year 2000, attainment by all peoples of the world of a level of health that will permit them to lead a socially and economically productive life, and to this end, ensuring primary health care for all;

(h) Make accessible through the primary health-care system reproductive health to all individuals of appropriate ages **[with proper regard for parental guidance and responsibility]** as soon as possible and no later than the year 2015, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, taking into account the reservations and declarations made at the Conference;

(i) Strengthening efforts and increasing commitments with the aim, by the year 2000, of reducing malaria mortality and morbidity by at least 20 per cent compared to 1995 levels in at least 75 per cent of affected countries, as well as reducing social and economic losses due to malaria in developing countries, especially in Africa, where the overwhelming majority both of cases and of deaths occur;

(j) By the year 2000, to eradicate, eliminate or control major diseases constituting global health problems, in accordance with paragraph 6.12 of Agenda 21;

(k) Reducing the adult illiteracy rate - the appropriate age group to be determined in each country - to at least half its 1990 level, with emphasis on female literacy. To achieve universal access to quality education, with particular priority being given to primary and technical education and job training, to combat illiteracy and to eliminate gender disparities in access to, retention in, and support for, education;

(l) Providing, on a sustainable basis, access to safe drinking water in sufficient quantities and proper sanitation for all;

(m) Improving the availability of affordable and adequate shelter for all, in accordance with the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000;

(n) Monitoring the implementation of those commitments at the highest appropriate level and considering the possibility of expediting their implementation through the dissemination of sufficient and accurate statistical data and appropriate indicators.

37. Access to social services for people living in poverty and vulnerable groups should be improved through:

(a) Facilitating access and improving the quality of education for people living in poverty by establishing schools in unserved areas, providing social services, such as meals and health care, as incentives for families in poverty to keep children in school and improving the quality of schools in low-income communities;

(b) Expanding and improving opportunities for continuing education and training, through public and private initiatives and non-formal education, to improve opportunities for people living in poverty including people with disabilities to develop the skills and knowledge needed to better their conditions and livelihoods;

(c) Expanding and improving pre-school education, formal and non-formal, including through new learning technologies, radio and television, to overcome some of the disadvantages faced by young children growing up in poverty;

[(d) Ensuring that low-income communities have access to health service outlets staffed by health workers who can provide primary care, essential drugs and information and services relating to preventive health care [including reproductive health, nutrition, dental care, safe water, sanitation and environmental protection] free of charge, or at affordable rates with provision for those who are unable to pay;]

(e) Promoting cooperation among government agencies, health care workers, women's organizations and other institutions of civil society to develop a comprehensive national strategy for improving **[maternal/reproductive health care]** and child health care and ensuring that people living in poverty have full access to **[such services/reproductive health care]**, **[such services, including maternal health care, family planning and ...]** including **[reproductive health]** family planning **[care/and sexual health as part of primary health care services]** and education on safe motherhood and prenatal and post-natal care, including on the benefits of breastfeeding;

(f) Encouraging health care workers to work in low-income communities and rural areas and providing outreach services to make health care available to otherwise unserved areas recognizing that investing in a primary health care system which ensures prevention, treatment and rehabilitation for all individuals is an effective means to promote social and economic development as well as broad participation in society.

D. Enhanced social protection and reduced vulnerability

38. Social protection systems should be based on legislation, as appropriate, strengthened and expanded, as necessary, in order to protect from poverty people who cannot find work, people who cannot work due to sickness, disability, **[language barriers]**, old age or maternity, or caring for children and sick or older relatives, families that have lost a breadwinner through death or marital break-up, and people who have lost their livelihoods due to natural disaster or civil violence, wars or forced displacement. Due attention should be given to people affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Actions to this end should include:

(a) Strengthening and expanding programmes targeted to those in need, programmes providing universal basic protection, and social security insurance programmes, with the choice of programmes depending on national financial and administrative capacities;

(b) Developing, where necessary, a strategy for a gradual expansion of social protection programmes that provide social security for all according to a schedule and terms and conditions related to national contexts;

(c) Ensuring that social safety nets associated with economic restructuring are considered as complementary strategies to overall poverty reduction and an increase in productive employment. Short term by nature, safety nets must protect people living in poverty and enable them to find productive employment;

(d) Designing social protection and support programmes to help people become self-sufficient as fully and quickly as possible, to assist and protect families, to reintegrate those excluded from economic activity and to prevent social isolation or stigmatization of those needing protection;

(e) Exploring a variety of means for raising revenues to strengthen social protection programmes and promoting efforts by the private sector and voluntary associations to provide social protection and support;

(f) Promoting innovative efforts of self-help organizations, professional associations and other organizations of civil society in this sphere;

(g) Expanding and strengthening social protection programmes to protect working people, including the self-employed and their families from the risk of falling into poverty, by extending coverage to as many as possible, providing benefits quickly and ensuring that entitlements continue when workers change jobs;

(h) Ensuring, through appropriate regulation, that contributory social protection plans are efficient and transparent so that the contributions of workers, employers and the State and the accumulation of resources can be monitored by the participants;

(i) **[Ensuring an adequate/Working to ensure a]** social safety net under structural adjustment programmes;

(j) Ensuring that social protection and social support programmes meet the needs of women and, especially, take into account women's multiple roles and concerns; in particular re-integration into formal work after periods of absence; support for older women; promotion of acceptance of women's multiple roles and responsibilities.

39. Particular efforts should be made to protect children and youth by:

(a) Promoting family stability and supporting families **[in their various forms]** in providing mutual support, including in their role as nurturers and educators of children;

(b) Promoting social support, including good quality child care and working conditions allowing both parents to reconcile parenthood with working life;

(c) Supporting and involving family organizations and networks in community activities;

(d) Taking the necessary legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect and promote the rights of the child with particular attention to the girl child;

(e) Improving the situation and protecting the rights of children in especially difficult circumstances including in areas of armed conflict, children who lack adequate family support, including urban street children, abandoned children, children with disabilities, children addicted to narcotic drugs, those affected by war or natural and man-made disasters, unaccompanied minor refugee children, working children, and those who are economically and sexually exploited or abused, including the victims of the sale and trafficking of children, and ensuring that they have access to food, shelter, education and health care, and are protected from abuse and violence, as well as provided with the necessary social and psychological assistance for healthy reintegration into society, **[family reunification]** and substituting education for child work;

(f) Developing and strengthening programmes targeted at youth living in poverty in order to enhance their economic, educational, social and cultural opportunities, to promote constructive social relations among them and to provide them with connections outside their communities to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty;

(g) Addressing the special needs of indigenous children and their families, particularly those living in poor areas, enabling them to benefit adequately from economic and social development programmes with full respect for their cultures, languages and traditions;

(h) Improving the condition of the single parent in society and ensuring that single-parent families and female headed or maintained households receive the social support they need, including support for adequate housing and child care.

40. Particular efforts should be made to protect older persons, including those with disabilities, by:

(a) Strengthening family support systems;

(b) Improving the situation of older persons, in particular in cases where they lack adequate family support, including rural older persons, working older persons, those affected by armed conflicts and natural or man-made disasters, and those who are exploited, physically or psychologically neglected or abused;

(c) Ensuring that older persons are able to meet their basic human needs through access to social services and social security, that those in need are assisted, that older persons are protected from abuse and violence, and are treated as a resource and not a burden;

(d) Providing assistance to grandparents who have been required to assume responsibility for children, particularly of parents who are affected by serious diseases, including AIDS or leprosy, or others who are unable to care for their dependants;

(e) Creating a financial environment that encourages people to save for their old age;

(f) Strengthening measures and mechanisms to ensure that retired workers do not fall into poverty taking into account their contribution to the development of their countries;

(g) Encouraging and supporting cross-generational participation in policy and programme development and in decision-making bodies at all levels.

41. People and communities should be protected from impoverishment and long-term displacement and exclusion resulting from disasters through the following actions at the national and international levels, as appropriate:

(a) Designing effective mechanisms to reduce the impact of and to mitigate the effects of natural disasters such as droughts, earthquakes, cyclones and floods;

(b) Developing long-term strategies and contingency plans for effective mitigation of natural disasters and for famine, including early warning, assessment, information dissemination and management as well as rapid response strategies, that ensure the quick evolution of relief activities into rehabilitation and development;

(c) Developing complementary mechanisms that integrate governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental efforts, including the establishment of national volunteer corps to support the United Nations activities in the areas of humanitarian emergency assistance, as well as in the promotion of a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 46/182 and 49/139 B;

(d) Developing and strengthening emergency food reserves as a means to prevent acute food shortages and stabilize prices, with facilities for food storage, transportation and distribution during emergencies, making full use of traditional and market mechanisms;

(e) In disaster-prone areas and in cooperation with community-based organizations, developing drought and flood mitigation agronomic practices and resource conservation and infrastructure building programmes, using food-for-work where appropriate and incorporating traditional disaster-response practices, which can be rapidly expanded into emergency employment and rebuilding programmes in disaster situations;

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(f) Establishing the necessary planning and logistical mechanisms to enable quick and effective response in disaster situations to provide food, psychological and social care, medicines, medical supplies and other relief to victims, especially women and children, and ensuring that the relief is effectively targeted to those who need it; and channelling and organizing disaster assistance so as to regenerate the local economy and support resource protection and development efforts;

(g) Mobilizing and coordinating regional and international assistance, including assistance from the United Nations system, and from non-governmental organizations, to support the actions of governments and communities confronting disaster situations;

(h) Reducing vulnerability to natural disasters through development of early warning systems.

CHAPTER III. THE EXPANSION OF PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT AND THE REDUCTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

BASIS FOR ACTION AND OBJECTIVES

42. Productive work and employment are central elements of development as well as decisive elements of human identity. Sustained economic growth and sustainable development as well as the expansion of productive employment should go hand in hand. Full and adequately and appropriately remunerated employment is an effective method of combating poverty and promoting social integration. The goal of full employment requires that the State, the social partners and all the other parts of civil society at all levels cooperate to create conditions which enable everyone to participate in and benefit from productive work. In a world of increasing globalization and interdependence among countries, national efforts need to be buttressed by international cooperation.

43. Globalization and rapid technological development give rise to increased labour mobility, bringing new employment opportunities as well as new uncertainties. There has been an increase in part-time, casual and other forms of atypical employment. In addition to requiring the creation of new employment opportunities on an unprecedented scale, such an environment calls for expanded efforts to enhance human resources development for sustainable development by inter alia enhancing the knowledge and skills necessary for people, particularly for women and youth, to work productively and adapt to changing requirements.

44. In many developed countries, growth in employment is currently great in small- and medium-sized enterprises and in self-employment. In many developing countries, informal sector activities often are the leading source of employment opportunities for people with limited access to formal sector wage employment and in particular for women. The removal of obstacles to the operation of such enterprises and the provision of support for their creation and expansion must be accompanied by protection of the basic rights, health and safety of workers and the progressive improvement of overall working conditions together with strengthening of efforts to make some enterprises part of the formal sector.

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45. While all groups can benefit from more employment opportunities, specific needs and changing demographic patterns and trends call for appropriate measures. Particular efforts by the public and private sectors are required in all spheres of employment policy to ensure gender equality, equal opportunity and non-discrimination on the basis of race/ethnic group, religion, age, health, disability and with full respect for applicable international instruments. Special attention must also be paid to the needs of groups who face particular disadvantage in their access to the labour market to ensure their integration into productive activities, including through the promotion of effective support mechanisms.

46. Much unremunerated productive work, such as caring for children and older persons, producing and preparing food for the family, protecting the environment and providing voluntary assistance to vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals and groups, is of great social importance. Worldwide, most of this work is done by women who often face the double burden of remunerated and unremunerated work. Efforts are needed to acknowledge the social and economic importance and value of unremunerated work and to facilitate labour force participation in combination with such work through flexible working arrangements, encouraging voluntary social activities as well as broadening the very conception of productive work and to accord social recognition for such work **[including, by reflecting its value in the satellite accounts of the gross national product]**.

47. There is therefore an urgent need, in the overall context of promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development for:

- Placing the creation of employment at the centre of national strategies and policies, with the full participation of employers and trade unions and other parts of civil society;
- Policies to expand work opportunities and increase productivity in both rural and urban sectors;
- Education and training which enable workers and entrepreneurs to adapt to changing technologies and economic conditions;
- Quality jobs, with full respect for the basic rights of workers as defined by relevant ILO and other international instruments;
- Giving special priority, in the design of policies, to the problems of structural, long-term unemployment and underemployment of youth, women, persons with disabilities and all other disadvantaged groups and individuals;
- Empowerment of women, gender balance in decision-making processes at all levels and gender analysis in policy development to ensure equal employment opportunities and wage rates for women and to enhance harmonious and mutually beneficial partnership between women and men in sharing family and employment responsibilities;
- Empowerment of members of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups including through the provision of education and training;

- A broader recognition and understanding of work and employment and greater flexibility in working time arrangements for both men and women.

ACTIONS

A. The centrality of employment in policy formulation

48. Placing the expansion of productive employment at the centre of sustainable development strategies and economic and social policies **[requires/the following are important]**:

(a) Promoting and pursuing active policies for full, productive, appropriately remunerated and freely chosen employment;

(b) Giving priority at the national and international levels to the policies which can address the problems of unemployment and underemployment.

49. Minimizing the negative impact on jobs of measures for macroeconomic stability **[requires/the following are important]**:

(a) Pursuing the coordination of macroeconomic policies so that they are mutually reinforcing and conducive to broad-based and sustained economic growth and sustainable development, as well as substantial increases in productive employment expansion and a decline in unemployment worldwide;

(b) Giving priority to programmes which most directly promote viable and long-term job growth when budgetary adjustments are required;

(c) Removing structural constraints to economic growth and employment creation as a part of stabilization policies;

(d) Enabling competing claims on resources to be resolved in a non-inflationary manner through the development and use of sound industrial relations systems;

(e) Monitoring, analysing and disseminating information on the impact of trade and investment liberalization on the economy, especially on employment;

(f) Exchanging information on different employment promotion measures and their consequences, and monitoring the development of global employment trends;

(g) Establishing appropriate social safety mechanisms to minimize the adverse effects of structural adjustment, stabilization or reform programmes on the work force, especially the vulnerable, and for those who lose their jobs, creating conditions for their re-entry through, inter alia, continuing education and retraining.

50. **[Stimulating/To stimulate] [both economic and]** employment **[-intensive]** growth **[requires/can be achieved by]**:

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[Alternative text: Promoting patterns of economic growth that maximize employment creation requires:]

(a) Encouraging, as appropriate, labour-intensive investments in economic and social infrastructure that use local resources and create, maintain and rehabilitate community assets in both rural and urban areas;

(b) Promoting technological innovations and industrial policies that have the potential to stimulate short- and long-term employment creation and to consider their impact on vulnerable and disadvantaged groups;

(c) Giving developing countries the capacity to select specific and suitable technologies;

(d) Providing technical assistance and expanded transfer of technology to developing countries to integrate technology and employment policies with other social objectives, and to establish and strengthen national and local technology institutions;

(e) Encouraging the realization in the countries with economies in transition of programmes for on-the-job personnel training, facilitating their adaptation to the market-oriented reforms and reducing mass unemployment;

(f) Promoting mutually supportive improvements in rural farm and non-farm production, including animal husbandry, forestry, fisheries and agro-processing industries, aiming to expand and diversify environmentally sound, sustained economic activity and productive employment in the rural sector;

(g) Encouraging community economic development strategies that build on partnerships among governments and members of civil society to create jobs and address the social circumstances of individuals, families and communities;

(h) Introducing sound policies to mobilize savings and stimulate investment in capital-short areas;

(i) Maximizing the job creation potential inherent in Agenda 21 through the conservation and management of natural resources, the promotion of alternative livelihoods in fragile ecosystems, and the rehabilitation and regeneration of critically affected and vulnerable land areas and natural resources;

(j) Encouraging the utilization of renewable energy, based on local employment - intensive resources, in particular in rural areas.

51. Enhancing opportunities for the creation and growth of private sector enterprises which would generate additional employment **[requires/can be achieved by]**:

(a) Removing obstacles faced by small- and medium-sized enterprises and easing regulations that discourage private initiative;

(b) Facilitating access by small- and medium-sized enterprises to credit, national and international markets, management training and technological information;

(c) Facilitating arrangements between large and small enterprises such as sub-contracting programmes with full respect for workers' rights;

(d) Improving opportunities and working conditions for women and youth entrepreneurs, by eliminating discrimination in access to credit, productive resources and social security protection, and providing and increasing, as appropriate, family benefits and social support such as health care and child care;

(e) Promoting and supporting and establishing legal frameworks to foster the development of cooperative enterprises, and encouraging them to mobilize capital, develop innovative lending programmes and promote entrepreneurship;

(f) Assisting informal sectors and local enterprises to become more productive and progressively integrated into the formal economy through access to affordable credit, information, wider markets, new technology and appropriate technological and management skills, opportunities to upgrade technical and management skills and improved premises and other physical infrastructure; and by progressively extending labour standards and social protection without destroying the ability of informal sectors to generate employment;

(g) Promoting the creation and development of independent organizations, such as chambers and other associations or self-help institutions of small formal and informal enterprises;

(h) Facilitating the expansion of the training and employment-generating opportunities of industries.

B. Education, training and labour policies

52. Facilitating people's access to productive employment in today's rapidly changing global environment and developing better quality jobs **[require/can be achieved by]**:

(a) Establishing well-defined educational priorities and investing effectively in education and training systems;

(b) Introducing new and revitalized partnerships between education and other government departments, including labour, and communications and partnerships between government and non-governmental organizations, the private sector, local communities, religious groups and families;

(c) Ensuring broad basic education, especially literacy, and promoting general education, including the analytical and critical thinking that is essential to improve learning skills. This is the foundation for acquiring specialized skills and for renewing, adapting and upgrading them rapidly to facilitate horizontal and vertical occupational mobility;

(d) Promoting the active participation of youth and adult learners in the design of literacy campaigns, education and training programmes to ensure that the labour force and social realities of diverse groups are taken into account;

(e) Promoting lifelong learning to ensure that education and training programmes respond to changes in the economy, provide full and equal access to training opportunities, secure the access of women to training programmes, offer incentives for public and private sectors to provide, and for workers to acquire, training on a continuous basis, and stimulate entrepreneurial skills;

(f) Encouraging and supporting through technical assistance programmes, including those of the United Nations system, well-designed and adaptable vocational training and apprenticeship programmes to enhance productivity and productive employment;

(g) Promoting and strengthening training programmes for the employment of new entrants to the job market and retraining programmes for displaced and retrenched workers;

(h) Developing an enhanced capacity for research and knowledge dissemination by encouraging national and international exchanges of information on innovative models and best practices;

(i) Developing, in the area of vocational and continuing education, innovative methods of teaching and learning, including interactive technologies and inductive methods involving close coordination between working experience and training.

53. Helping workers to adapt and to enhance their employment opportunities under changing economic conditions **[requires/can be accomplished by]**:

(a) Designing, developing, implementing, analysing and monitoring active labour policies to stimulate the demand for labour in order to ensure that the burden of indirect labour costs on employers does not constitute a disincentive to hiring workers; identify skill shortages and surpluses; provide vocational guidance and counselling services and active help in job searches; promote occupational choice and mobility; offer advisory services and support to enterprises, particularly small enterprises, for the more effective use and development of their work force; and establish institutions and processes which prevent all forms of discrimination and improve the employment opportunities of groups that are vulnerable and disadvantaged;

(b) Improving the employment opportunities and increasing ways and means to help youth and persons with disabilities to develop needed skills to enable them to find employment;

(c) Promoting access by women and girls to traditionally male-dominated occupations;

(d) Developing strategies to address the needs of people engaged in various forms of atypical employment;

(e) Promoting labour mobility, retraining and maintenance of adequate levels of social protection to facilitate worker redeployment when there is phasing out of production or closure of an enterprise, giving special attention to vulnerable and disadvantaged groups;

(f) Facilitating the integration or reintegration of women into the work force by developing adequate child-care, care for older persons and other support services and facilities;

(g) Encouraging cooperation between employers and workers to prepare for the introduction of new technologies and to plan for their employment effects as far in advance as possible, while ensuring adequate protection and adjustment;

(h) Strengthening public and private employment services to assist workers to adapt to changing job markets and provide social safety mechanisms, occupational guidance, employment and job search counselling, training, placement, apprenticeships and the sharing of information;

(i) Strengthening labour market information systems, particularly the development of appropriate data and indicators on employment, underemployment, unemployment and earnings, as well as dissemination of information concerning labour markets, including, as far as possible, work situations outside formal markets. All such data should be disaggregated by gender in order to monitor the status of women relative to men.

C. Enhanced quality of work and employment

54. Governments should enhance the quality of work and employment by:

(a) Observing and fully implementing the human rights obligations that they have assumed;

(b) Safeguarding and promoting respect for basic workers' rights, including the prohibition of forced labour and child labour, freedom of association and the right to organize and bargain collectively, **[equal remuneration for men and women for work of equal value,]** and non-discrimination in employment, **[and fully implementing the conventions of the International Labour Organization in the case of States party to those conventions and taking into account the principles embodied in those conventions in the case of those countries that are not States party]** to thus achieve truly sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

(c) **[Consider ratifying (and enforcing)/Encouraging ratification and/or enforcement of]** ILO Conventions in these areas as well as those relating to employment rights of minors, women, youth, persons with disabilities and indigenous people;

(d) Using existing international labour standards to guide the formulation of national labour legislation and policies;

(e) Promoting the role of the ILO particularly as regards improving the level of employment and the quality of work;

(f) Encouraging, where appropriate, employers and workers to consider ways and means for enhancing the sharing of workers in the profits of enterprises and promoting cooperation between workers and employers in the decisions of enterprises.

55. To achieve a healthy and safe working environment, remove exploitation, abolish child labour, raise productivity, and enhance the quality of life **[requires/can be facilitated by]**:

(a) Developing and implementing policies designed to promote improved working conditions, including health and safety conditions;

(b) Improving health policies that reduce, with a view to eliminating, environmental health hazards and provide for occupational health and safety, in conformity with the relevant conventions providing informal sector enterprises and all workers with accessible information and guidance on how to enhance occupational safety and to reduce health risks;

(c) Promoting, in accordance with national laws and regulations, sound labour relations based on tripartite cooperation, and full respect for freedom of association and the right to organize and bargain collectively;

(d) Setting specific target dates for eliminating all forms of child labour which are contrary to accepted international standards and ensuring the full enforcement of relevant existing laws, and, where appropriate, enacting the legislation necessary to implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and ILO standards, ensuring the protection of working children, and, in particular, street children, through the provision of appropriate health, education and other social services;

(e) Designing labour policies and programmes to help eradicate family poverty, which is a main cause of child labour, eliminating child labour and encouraging parents to send their children to school through, inter alia, the provision of social services and other incentives;

(f) Establishing policies and programmes to protect workers, especially women, from sexual harassment and violence;

(g) Encouraging incentives to public and private enterprises to develop, transfer and adopt technologies and know-how that improve the working environment, enhance occupational safety and reduce, with a view to eliminating, health risks.

56. The full participation of women in the labour market and their equal access to employment opportunities require:

(a) Establishing the principle of equality between men and women as a basis for employment policy and promoting gender sensitivity training to eliminate prejudice against the employment of women;

(b) Eliminating gender discrimination, including by taking positive action, where appropriate, in hiring, wages, access to credit, benefits, promotion, training, career development, job assignment, working conditions, job security and social security benefits;

(c) Improving women's access to technologies that facilitate their occupational and domestic work, encourage self-support, generate incomes, transform gender-prescribed roles within the productive process, and enable them to move out of stereotyped, low-paying jobs;

(d) Changing those policies and attitudes which reinforce the division of labour based on gender, and providing institutional support such as social protection for maternity, parental leave, technologies which facilitate the sharing and reduce the burden of domestic chores, and flexible working arrangements, which include parental voluntary part-time employment and work-sharing as well as accessible and affordable quality child care facilities, that enable working parents to reconcile work with family responsibilities, paying particular attention to the needs of single-parent households;

(e) Encouraging men to take an active part in all areas of family and household responsibilities, including the sharing of child-rearing and housework.

D. Enhanced employment opportunities for groups with specific needs

57. The improvement of the design of policies and programmes requires:

(a) Identifying, and reflecting the specific needs of particular groups, and ensuring that programmes are equitable and non-discriminatory, efficient and effective in meeting the needs of those groups;

(b) Actively involving representatives of these groups in planning, design and management; and monitoring, evaluating and reorienting these programmes by providing access to accurate information and sufficient resources to ensure that they reach their intended beneficiaries.

58. Employment policies can better address the problem of short- and long-term unemployment by:

(a) Incorporating, with the involvement of the unemployed and/or their associations, a comprehensive set of measures, including employment planning, re-education and training programmes, literacy, skills upgrading, counselling and job-search assistance, temporary work schemes, frequent contact with employment service offices and preparing for entry and reentry into the labour market;

(b) Analysing the underlying causes of long-term unemployment and their effect on different groups, including older workers and single parents, and designing employment and other supporting policies that address specific situations and needs;

(c) Promoting social security schemes which reduce barriers and disincentives to employment to enable the unemployed to improve their capacity to participate actively in society, to maintain an adequate standard of living and to be able to take advantage of employment opportunities.

59. Programmes for entry or reentry into the labour market aimed at vulnerable and disadvantaged groups can effectively combat the causes of exclusion on the labour market by:

(a) Complementing literacy actions, general education or vocational training by work experience which may include support and teachings on business management and training to give better knowledge of the value of entrepreneurship and other private sector contributions to society;

(b) Increasing the level of skills, and also improving the ability of getting a job through improvements in housing, health and family life.

60. Policies should seek to guarantee all youth constructive options for their future by:

(a) Providing equal access to education at the primary and secondary levels, with literacy as a priority and with special attention to girls;

(b) Encouraging the struggle against illiteracy and promoting literacy training in national languages in developing countries, in particular in Africa;

(c) Encouraging various actors to join forces in designing and carrying out comprehensive and coordinated programmes that stimulate the resourcefulness of youth, preparing them for durable employment or self-employment, and providing them with guidance, vocational and managerial training, social skills, work experience and education in social values;

(d) Ensuring the participation of youth, commensurate with their age and responsibility, in planning and decision-making with regard to their future.

61. The full participation of indigenous people in the labour market and their equal access to employment opportunities **[can be promoted by/requires]** developing comprehensive employment, education and training programmes that take account of the particular needs of indigenous people.

62. Broadening the range of employment opportunities for persons with disabilities requires:

(a) Ensuring that laws and regulations do not discriminate against persons with disabilities;

(b) Taking proactive measures such as organizing support services, devising incentive schemes and supporting self-help schemes and small businesses;

(c) Making appropriate adjustments in the work place to accommodate persons with disabilities including, in that respect, the promotion of innovative technologies;

(d) Developing alternative forms of employment, such as supported employment for persons with disabilities who need these services;

(e) Promoting public awareness within society regarding the impact of negative stereotyping of persons with disabilities on their participation in the labour market;

63. There is need for intensified international cooperation and national attention to the situation of migrant workers and their families. To that end:

(a) Governments are invited to consider ratifying existing instruments pertaining to migrant workers, particularly the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;

(b) In accordance with national legislation, Governments of receiving countries are urged to consider extending to documented migrants who meet appropriate length-of-stay requirements and to members of their families whose stay in the receiving country is regular, treatment equal to that accorded their own nationals with regard to the enjoyment of basic human rights, including equality of opportunity and treatment in respect of religious practices, working conditions, social security, participation in trade unions, access to health, education, cultural and other social services, as well as equal access to the judicial system and equal treatment before the law;

(c) Governments of countries of origin, transit countries and countries of destination are urged to cooperate in reducing the causes of undocumented migration, safeguarding the basic human rights of undocumented migrants and preventing their exploitation;

(d) Governments of both receiving countries and countries of origin should adopt effective sanctions against those who organise undocumented migration, exploit undocumented migrants or engage in trafficking in undocumented migrants;

(e) Governments of countries of origin are urged to facilitate return of migrants and their reintegration into their home communities and to devise ways of using their skills. Governments of countries of origin should consider collaborating with countries of destination and engaging the support of appropriate international organizations in promoting the return on a voluntary basis of qualified migrants who can play a crucial role in the transfer of knowledge, skills and technology. Countries of destination are encouraged to facilitate return migration on a voluntary basis by adopting flexible policies, such as the transferability of pensions and other work benefits.

E. A broader recognition and understanding of work and employment

64. A broader recognition and understanding of work and employment requires:

(a) Acknowledging the important contribution of unremunerated work to societal well-being and bringing respect, dignity and value to societal perceptions of such work and the people who do it;

(b) Developing a more comprehensive knowledge of work and employment through, inter alia: efforts to measure and better understand the type, extent and distribution of unremunerated work, particularly work in caring for dependents and unremunerated work done for family farms or businesses; and encouraging, sharing and disseminating information, studies and experience in this field, **[including efforts to incorporate unremunerated work (measures/activities) as a part of national accounting systems]**;

(c) Recognizing the relationship between remunerated employment and unremunerated work in developing strategies to expand productive employment, ensure equal access by women and men to employment and to ensure the care and well-being of children and other dependants as well as to combat poverty and promote social integration;

(d) Encouraging an open dialogue on the possibilities and institutional requirements for a broader understanding of various forms of work and employment;

(e) Examining a range of policies and programmes, including social security legislation, and taxation systems, in accordance with national priorities and policies, to ascertain how to facilitate flexibility in the way people divide their time between education and training, paid employment, family responsibilities, volunteer activity and other socially useful forms of work, leisure and retirement, giving particular attention to the situation of women, especially female-maintained households;

(f) Promoting socially useful volunteer work and allocating appropriate resources to support such work without diluting the objectives regarding employment expansion;

(g) Intensifying international exchange of experience on various aspects of change in the recognition and understanding of work and employment and on new forms of flexible working time arrangements over the lifetime.

65. The development of additional socially useful new types of employment and work **[inter alia requires]**:

(a) Helping vulnerable and disadvantaged groups integrate better into society and, by this means, participate more effectively in economic and social development;

(b) Helping older persons who are dependent or giving support for families needing educational assistance or social support;

(c) Strengthening social ties through these forms of employment and work which represents an important realization of social development policy.

CHAPTER IV. SOCIAL INTEGRATION

BASIS FOR ACTION AND OBJECTIVES

66. The aim of social integration is to create "a society for all", where every individual each with rights and responsibilities has an active role to play. Such an inclusive society must be based upon respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, cultural and religious diversity, social justice and special needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, democratic participation and the rule of law. The pluralistic nature of most societies has at times resulted in problems for the different groups to achieve and maintain harmony, cooperation, and to have equal access to all resources in society. Full recognition of each individual's rights in the context of the rule of law has not always been fully guaranteed. Since the founding of the United Nations this quest for humane, stable, safe, tolerant and just societies has shown at best a mixed record.

67. Nevertheless, progress has been noted as shown in the continuation of the ongoing process of decolonization; the elimination of apartheid; the spread of democracy; wider recognition of the need to respect human dignity, all human rights and fundamental freedoms and cultural diversity; the unacceptability of discrimination; increasing recognition of the unique concerns of indigenous people in the world; an expanded notion of collective responsibility for all members of a society; expanded economic and educational opportunities and globalization of communication; and greater possibility for social mobility, choice and autonomy of action.

68. Notwithstanding these, there are negative developments that include social polarization and fragmentation, widening disparities and inequalities of income and wealth within and among nations; problems arising from uncontrolled urban development and the degradation of the environment; marginalization of people, families, social groups, communities and even entire countries; the strains on individuals, families, communities and institutions as a result of the rapid pace of social change, economic transformation, migration and major dislocations of population particularly in the areas of armed conflict.

69. Furthermore, violence, in its many manifestations, including domestic violence, especially against women, children, older persons and people with disabilities, is a growing threat to the security of individuals, families and communities everywhere. Total social breakdown is an all-too-real contemporary experience. Organized crime, illegal drugs, illicit arms trade, trafficking in women and children, ethnic and religious conflict, civil war, terrorism, and all forms of extremist violence, xenophobia, politically motivated killing and even genocide present fundamental threats to societies and the global social order. These are compelling and urgent reasons for action by governments individually and, as appropriate, jointly to foster social cohesion while recognizing, protecting and valuing diversity.

[70. Early integration is the key to allowing documented migrants to contribute their skills, knowledge, and potential to the development of countries of destination, and involves adjustments by both documented migrants and the host society. The former need to know and respect the values, traditions and

principles of the host society, which in turn needs to understand and respect the cultures and traditions of documented migrants.]
[Note: to be moved to section E.]

71. There is therefore an urgent need for:

- Transparent and accountable public institutions accessible to people on an equal basis and responsive to their needs;
- Opportunities for all to participate in all spheres of public life;
- **[Strengthening the role and the participation of civil society in the design, implementation and evaluation of public policies]**;
- Publicly available objective data to enable people to make informed decisions;
- Maintenance of social stability and promotion of social justice and progress;
- Promotion of non-discrimination, tolerance and mutual respect for and value of diversity;
- Equity and equality of opportunity and social mobility;
- Gender equality and equity and empowerment of women;
- Elimination of physical and social barriers with the aim of creating a society accessible for all, with special emphasis on measures to meet the needs and interests of those who face obstacles in participating fully in society;
- **[Giving special attention to health not only as a fundamental right but also as a factor of development;]**
- Promoting the principle of caring for each other's well being, and fostering the spirit of mutual support, within the context of human rights education;
- Recognizing and addressing the dangers to society of armed conflict, **[the excessive]** production and **[[illicit] trade of arms] [and sale of arms that are particularly injurious or have indiscriminate effects,]** violence, crime, the production, use and trafficking of illicit drugs, and trafficking in women and children;
- The elimination of all forms of violence and the full implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women.

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ACTIONS

A. [**Protection of human rights, cultural diversity,**] Responsive government and full participation in society

72. Governments should promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, bearing in mind the interdependent and mutually reinforcing relationship between democracy, development, and respect for human rights, and should make public institutions more responsive to people's needs by:

(a) Ensuring that decisions are based on accurate data and are taken with the participation of those who will be affected keeping under review, within each country's constitutional framework, the responsibilities of the different levels of government, and the administrative arrangements for organizing and delivering services;

(b) Keeping under review within each country's constitutional framework, the national, provincial, municipal and local capacity and capability in raising revenue and allocation of resources to promote local initiatives in maintaining and increasing community cohesion;

(c) Simplifying administrative regulations, disseminating information about public policy issues and initiatives for collective interests facilitating maximum access to information;

(d) Opening channels and promoting full confidence between citizens and government agencies and developing affordable recourse procedures accessible to all people, especially those who have no access to channels and agencies of communication to seek redress of grievances;

(e) Encouraging the production of relevant studies/research to assess the consequences of global and technological changes on social integration and the production of evaluations of the policies and programmes put in place to achieve the various components of social integration; and encouraging national and international exchanges and dissemination of information on innovative models and successful practices;

(f) Requiring accountability for the honest, just and equitable delivery of public services to the people from all public officials;

(g) Making their services accessible to all citizens and taking special care to ensure that the services are provided to all persons in need;

(h) Strengthening popular political participation and promoting transparency and accountability of political groupings at local and national levels;

(i) **[Encouraging/recommending/considering]** ratification and removal of reservations and full implementation of international human rights **[treaties/instruments]** aiming to eliminate barriers to the full enjoyment of all human rights.

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73. Encouraging the fullest participation in society **[requires]**:

(a) Strengthening the capacities and opportunities for all people, especially those who are vulnerable and disadvantaged to establish and maintain independent organizations representing their interests, within each country's constitutional framework;

[(b) Ensuring institutions of civil society with special attention given to institutions representing vulnerable and disadvantaged groups to participate in the formulation of goals for public action and in the design and implementation of policies that will direct the resources of individuals and groups towards social development];

(c) Giving community organizations greater involvement in the design and implementation of local projects, particularly education, health care, resource management and social protection;

(d) Ensuring a legal framework and a support structure that encourages the formation of, and constructive contributions from, community organizations and voluntary associations of individuals;

(e) Encouraging all members of society to exercise their rights, fulfil their responsibilities, and participate fully in their societies, recognizing that governments alone cannot meet all needs in society;

(f) Establishing a universal and flexible social safety net that takes into account available economic resources and encourages rehabilitation and active participation in society;

(g) Facilitating the access of disadvantaged and marginalized people to education and information and their participation in social and cultural life;

(h) Promoting equality and social integration through sports and cultural activities.

B. Non-discrimination, tolerance and mutual respect for and value of diversity

74. Eliminating discrimination and promoting tolerance and mutual respect for and value of diversity **[at the national and international level] [requires]**:

(a) Enacting and implementing **[as appropriate]** laws and other regulations against racism, racial discrimination, religious intolerance, xenophobia and all forms of discrimination in all walks of life in societies;

(b) Encouraging the early ratification, considering the removal or limitation of reservations and implementation of international instruments including the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

(c) Taking specific measures, in the context of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, to remove long-standing legal and social barriers to employment, education, productive resources and public services, to assist women in becoming aware of and realizing their rights and to ensure the elimination of intra-family discrimination for the girl child, especially in regard to health, nutrition and education;

(d) Ensuring gender equality and equity through changes in attitudes, policies and practices, encouraging full participation and empowerment of women in social, economic and political life, and enhancing gender balance in decision making processes at all levels;

(e) Reviewing with a view to changing legislation, public codes and practices that perpetuate discriminatory practices;

(f) Disseminating information in plain language form to all groups in society about people's rights and the means available to redress complaints;

(g) Strengthening or establishing machinery for monitoring and resolving disputes and conflicts related to discriminatory practices, developing arbitration and conciliation procedures at local and national levels;

(h) Setting an example through State institutions and the educational system to promote and protect respect for freedom of expression, democracy, political pluralism, diversity of heritage, cultures and values, religious tolerance and principles and national traditions on which a country has been built;

(i) Recognizing that the languages spoken or used in the world should be respected and protected;

(j) Recognizing that it is of utmost importance for all people to live in cooperation and harmony, and ensuring that the traditions and cultural heritage of nations must be fully protected;

(k) Encouraging independent communication media which promote people's understanding and awareness of all aspects of social integration with full respect for freedom of information and expression.

C. Equality and social justice

75. Governments should promote equality and social justice by:

(a) Ensuring that all people are equal before the law;

(b) Carrying out regular review of public policy, including health and education policies, and public spending from a social and gender equality and equity perspective and promoting their positive contribution to equalizing opportunities;

(c) Expanding and improving access to basic services with the aim of ensuring universal coverage;

(d) Providing equal opportunities in public sector employment and providing guidance, information and, as appropriate, incentives to private employers to do the same;

(e) Encouraging the free formation of cooperatives, community and other grass-roots organizations, mutual support groups, recreational/sports associations, and similar institutions that tend to strengthen social integration, paying particular attention to policies that assist families in their support, educational, socializing and nurturing roles;

[(f) Minimizing [Ensuring that structural adjustment programmes are so designed as to minimize] the negative impact [of structural adjustment and economic transformation] on vulnerable and disadvantaged groups and communities, preventing their marginalization in economic and social activities, and devising measures to ensure that these groups and communities gain access to and control over economic resources and economic and social activities; actions should be taken to reduce inequality and economic disparity;]

(g) Promoting full access to preventive and curative health care to improve the quality of life, especially those of the vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, in particular women and children;

(h) Expanding basic education by developing special measures to provide schooling to children and youth living in sparsely populated and remote areas, for children and youth of nomadic, pastoral, migrant or indigenous parents, and for street children, children and youth working or looking after younger siblings and disabled or aged parents, and disabled children and youth; establishing, in partnership with indigenous people, educational systems that will meet the unique needs of their cultures;

(i) Ensuring that expansion of basic education is accompanied by improved quality, appropriate attention to children of different abilities, cooperation between family and school and a close link between the school curriculum and the needs of the work place;

(j) Evaluating on a regular basis school systems by results achieved and disseminating research findings regarding the appropriateness of different methods of evaluation;

(k) Assuring all people can have access to a variety of formal and non-formal learning activities throughout their lives that allow them to contribute to and benefit from full participation in society; making use of all forms of education, including non-conventional and experimental means of education such as tele-courses and correspondence courses, through public institutions, the institutions of civil society and the private sector, to provide educational opportunities for those who in childhood missed necessary schooling, for youth in the process of transition from school to work and for those who wish to continue education and upgrade skills throughout their lives;

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(1) Providing equal access for girls to all levels of education including non-traditional and vocational training; ensuring that measures are taken to address the various cultural and practical barriers that impede their access to education through such measures as hiring of female teachers, flexible hours, care of dependants and siblings and appropriate facilities.

D. Responses to special social needs

76. Governmental responses to special needs of social groups should include:

(a) Identifying specific means to encourage institutions and services to adapt to the special needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups;

(b) Recognizing and promoting the abilities, talents and experience of those groups that are vulnerable and disadvantaged, and identifying ways to prevent isolation and alienation and enabling them to make a positive contribution to society;

(c) Supporting by legislation, incentives and other means, where appropriate, organizations of the vulnerable and disadvantaged groups so that they may promote the interests of the groups concerned and become involved in local and national, economic, social and political decision-making that guides society as a whole;

[(d) Promoting disadvantaged and vulnerable groups to seek positions in legislatures, governments, judiciaries and other positions of public authority or influence;]

(e) Taking measures to integrate into economic and social life, demobilized persons and persons displaced by civil conflict and disasters;

(f) Promoting and protecting the rights of indigenous people and empowering them to make choices which enable them to retain their cultural identity while participating in national, economic and social life, with full respect for their cultural values, languages, traditions and forms of social organization;

(g) Implementing the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit for Children in 1990 and ratifying, as appropriate, and implementing the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

(h) Encouraging youth to participate in discussions and decisions affecting them and in the design, implementation and evaluation of policies and programmes; ensuring that youth acquire the skills to participate in all aspects of life in society and to lead self sufficient lives through the provision of relevant and innovative educational programmes; and establishing laws and measures that ensure the protection of youth against physical and mental abuse and economic exploitation;

(i) Adopting specific measures to equip young people for responsible adulthood, particularly out of school youth and street children;

(j) Promoting the United Nations Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and developing strategies for implementing the Rules; governments, in collaboration with organizations of people with disabilities and the private sector, should work towards the equalization of opportunities, so that people with disabilities can contribute to and benefit from full participation in society; policies concerning people with disabilities should focus on their abilities rather than their disabilities and should ensure their dignity as citizens;

(k) Within the context of the United Nations Principles for Older Persons and the Global Targets on Ageing for the Year 2001 reviewing or developing strategies for implementing the Vienna International Plan of Action on Ageing so that older persons can maximize their contribution to society and play their full part in the community;

(l) Facilitating the implementation of the Guidelines for Further Planning and Suitable Follow-up in the field of Youth with a view to promoting the integration of youth into societies;

(m) Taking measures to enable persons belonging to minorities to participate fully and contribute to the development of their society.

E. Responses to specific social needs of refugees, displaced persons and asylum seekers, documented migrants and undocumented migrants

77. In order to address the special needs of refugees, displaced persons and asylum seekers:

(a) Governments are urged to address the root causes of movements of refugees and displaced persons by taking appropriate measures, particularly with respect to conflict resolution; the promotion of peace and reconciliation; respect for human rights, including those of persons belonging to minorities; respect for independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of states. Governments and all other entities should respect and safeguard the right of people to remain in safety in their homes and should refrain from policies or practices that force people to flee;

(b) Governments are urged to strengthen their support for international protection and assistance activities on behalf of refugees and, as appropriate, displaced persons and to promote the search for durable solutions to their plight. In doing so, governments are encouraged to enhance regional and international mechanisms that promote appropriate shared responsibility for the protection and assistance needs of refugees. All necessary measures should be taken to ensure the physical protection of refugees - in particular, that of refugee women and refugee children - especially against exploitation, abuse and all forms of violence;

(c) Adequate international support should be extended to countries of asylum to meet the basic needs of refugees and to assist in the search for durable solutions. Refugee populations should be assisted in achieving self sufficiency. Refugees, particularly refugee women, should be involved in the planning of refugee assistance activities and in their implementation. In planning and implementing refugee assistance activities special attention should be given to the specific needs of refugee and displaced women and children. Refugees should be provided with access to adequate accommodation, education, health services, including family planning, and other necessary social services. Refugees should respect the laws and regulations of their countries of asylum;

(d) Governments and [other relevant actors] should create comprehensive conditions that allow for the voluntary repatriation of refugees in safety and dignity and the voluntary and safe return of internally displaced persons to their homes of origin and their smooth reintegration into society;

(e) Governments are urged to abide by international law concerning refugees. States that have not already done so are invited to consider acceding to the international instruments concerning refugees - in particular, the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees. Governments are furthermore urged to respect the principle of non-refoulement (i.e. the principle of no forcible return of persons to places where their lives or freedom would be threatened because of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion). Governments should ensure that asylum seekers in the government's territory have access to a fair hearing and should facilitate the expeditious processing of asylum requests, ensuring that guidelines and procedures for the determination of refugee status are sensitive to the particular situation of women;

(f) Governments and relevant actors should respect the right of people to seek and enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.

78. To promote the equitable treatment and integration of documented migrants **[particularly documented migrant workers and members of their families]:**

(a) Governments should ensure that documented migrants receive fair and equal treatment, including full respect of their human rights, protection of the laws of the host society, appropriate access to economic opportunities and social services; protection against racism, ethnocentrism and xenophobia; and protection from violence and exploitation. Provision of language training recognizing the centrality of language acquisition to the effective integration of documented migrants, including those not destined for the labour market in so far as resources permit. Early integration is the key to allowing documented migrants to contribute their skills, knowledge, and potential to the development of countries of destination, and involves mutual understanding by documented migrants and the host society. The former need to know and respect the values, laws, traditions and principles of the host society, which in turn should respect the religions, cultures and traditions of documented migrants;

(b) Governments of receiving countries are urged to consider giving to documented migrants having the right to long-term residence, civil and political rights and responsibilities, as appropriate, and facilitating their naturalization. Special efforts should be made to enhance the integration of the children of long term migrants by providing them with educational and training opportunities equal to those of nationals, allowing them to exercise an

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economic activity and facilitating the naturalization of those who have been raised in the receiving country. Consistent with article 10 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and all relevant universally recognized human rights instruments, all governments, particularly those of receiving countries must recognize the vital importance of family reunification and promote its integration into their national legislation in order to ensure protection of the unity of the families of documented migrants. Governments of receiving countries must ensure the protection of migrants and their families, giving priority to programmes and strategies that combat religious intolerance, racism, ethnocentrism, xenophobia and gender discrimination and that generate the necessary public sensitivity in that regard;

(c) Governments and relevant actors should encourage the international exchange of information on educational and training institutions in order to promote the productive employment of documented migrants through greater recognition of foreign education and credentials;

(d) Governments should encourage inter-racial harmony and cross-cultural understanding through where appropriate educational programmes including alternative dispute resolution and conflict prevention training in schools.

79. In order to address the concerns and basic human needs related to undocumented migrants:

(a) Governments are urged to cooperate in reducing the causes of undocumented migration, safeguarding the basic human rights of undocumented migrants and preventing their exploitation and offering them appropriate means of appeal according to national legislation, punishing criminals who organize trafficking in human beings;

(b) Countries of destination, countries of transit and countries of origin should cooperate, as appropriate, to manage immigration flows, prevent undocumented migration, and, if appropriate, facilitate the return of migrants and their reintegration in their home communities;

(c) Governments are urged to cooperate to reduce the effects of undocumented migration on receiving countries bearing in mind the special circumstances and needs of these countries, in particular developing countries;

(d) Governments are urged to promote effective measures to protect all undocumented migrants and members of their families against racism, ethnocentrism and xenophobia.

F. Violence, crime, the problem of illicit drugs and substance abuse

80. **[Addressing]** The problems created by violence, crime, substance abuse and production, use and trafficking of illicit drugs and the rehabilitation of addicts **[require/can be addressed]:**

(a) Introducing and implementing specific policies and public health and social service programmes to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence in society including particularly domestic violence and to protect the victims of violence, with particular attention to violence against women, children, older persons, and persons with disabilities. In particular, the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women should be implemented and enforced nationally. In addition, the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child should be respected;

(b) Countries should take full measures to eliminate all forms of exploitation, abuse, harassment and violence against women, in particular domestic violence and rape; special attention should be given to violence resulting from harmful traditional or customary practices and all forms of extremism, this implies both preventive actions and rehabilitation of victims;

(c) In order to prevent the participation of children and youth in crime, violence and drug abuse and trafficking, implementing programmes that channel their energy and creativity towards improving themselves and their communities;

(d) Improving mechanisms for resolving conflicts peacefully and reintegrating society following conflicts, including efforts towards reconciliation and confidence-building between the conflicting groups, training in non-violent conflict resolution at all levels of education, reconstruction of social institutions that have been destroyed, reintegration of displaced and disabled persons, and re-establishment of the rule of law and respect for all human rights;

(e) Partnership with non-governmental organizations and community organizations, to make adequate provision for the rehabilitation and reintegration into society of offenders, especially young offenders; measures will include efforts, to maintain links with their families during detention, and to reintegrate them into productive employment and social life after their release from detention;

(f) Strengthening international cooperation and coordination in devising strategies, policies, legislation, and other measures in combating national and transnational organized crime and the use of violence and terrorism;

(g) Adopting effective and environmentally sound national strategies to prevent or reduce substantially the cultivation and processing of crops used for the illegal drug trade, paying particular attention to national and international support for development programmes that create viable economic alternatives to drug production towards the full integration of the social groups involved in these activities;

(h) Combating drug and substance abuse and drug trafficking, corruption and related criminal activities through national and internationally coordinated measures, while strengthening integrated, multisectoral programmes to prevent and reduce the demand for consumption of drugs in order to create a society free of illicit drugs. In cooperation with the institutions of civil society and the private sector, drug abuse prevention as well as preventive education for children and youth, rehabilitation and education programmes for former drug and

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alcohol addicts especially children and youth to enable them to obtain productive employment and achieve the independence, dignity and responsibility for a drug-free, crime-free, productive life;

(i) Working nationally and internationally, to identify narcotics trafficking and money laundering networks, prosecuting their leaders and ceasing assets derived from these criminal activities;

(j) Supporting comprehensive drug interdiction strategies and strengthening efforts to control precursor chemicals and firearms, ammunition and explosives to prevent their diversion to drug trafficking and terrorist groups;

(k) Combating trafficking in women and children through national and internationally coordinated measures and at the same time, establishing or strengthening institutions for the rehabilitation of victims of trafficking of women and children.

[G. Strengthening of family ties

81. To strengthen family ties and to promote the role of the family in social integration requires:

(a) Ensuring that all social and economic policies meet the needs of families, paying particular attention to their ability to care for children and older persons;

(b) Developing and providing family services to enhance understanding, mutual respect and tolerance in families, particularly to promote partnership between men and women;

(c) Promoting the families' understanding of their social responsibilities to ensure social cohesion and stability in the local communities.]

CHAPTER V. IMPLEMENTATION AND FOLLOW-UP

82. Nothing short of a renewed and massive political will, at the national and international level, to invest in people and their well-being will achieve the objectives of social development. Social development and the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Summit are primarily the responsibility of Governments, although international cooperation and assistance are essential for their full implementation. At all levels of implementation, the crucial and essential requirements are:

- The promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, the support for democratic institutions and the empowerment of women;

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- Integration of goals, programmes and review mechanisms which have developed separately in response to specific problems;
- Partnership involving states, local authorities, non-governmental organizations especially voluntary organizations, other major groups as defined in Agenda 21, the media, families and individuals;
- Recognition of the diversity in the world and the need to take measures geared to achieve the Summit's goals;
- Empowerment of people who are to be assisted so that they fully participate in setting goals, designing programmes, implementing activities and evaluating performance;
- Efforts to mobilize **[new and additional]** resources from all **[available]** funding sources and mechanisms including multilateral, bilateral and private sources, including on concessional and grant terms;
- Solidarity, extending the concept of partnership and a moral imperative of mutual respect and concern among individuals, communities and nations.

ACTIONS

A. National strategies, evaluations and reviews

83. The promotion of an integrated approach to the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national level, in accordance with national specificities, requires:

(a) Analysing and reviewing macroeconomic, microeconomic and sectoral policies and their impact on poverty, employment, social integration and social development;

(b) Enhancing Government policies and programmes to promote social development by strengthening coordination of all efforts of national and international actors, strengthening the efficiency and operational capacity of public management structures, and facilitating the effective and transparent use of resources, taking due account of the recommendations and follow-up of Agenda 21;

(c) Assessing the extent, distribution and characteristics of poverty, unemployment and social tensions and social exclusion, taking measures aiming at **[eradicating]** poverty, increasing productive employment and enhancing social integration;

(d) Formulating or strengthening by 1996 comprehensive cross sectoral strategies for implementing the Summit outcome and national strategies for social development, including government action, actions by states in cooperation with other Governments, international, regional and subregional organizations and actions taken in partnership and cooperation with actors of civil society, the private sector and cooperatives with specific responsibilities to be undertaken by each actor, and with agreed priorities and time-frames;

(e) Integrating social development goals into national development plans, policies and budgets, cutting across traditional sectoral boundaries, with transparency and accountability, and formulated and implemented with the participation of the groups directly affected;

(f) Defining time-bound goals and targets for reducing overall poverty and eradicating extreme poverty, expanding employment and reducing unemployment, and enhancing social integration, within each national context;

(g) Promoting and strengthening institutional capacity building for interministerial coordination, intersectoral collaboration, coordinated allocation of resources and vertical integration from national capitals to local districts;

(h) Developing quantitative and qualitative indicators of social development, including where possible disaggregation by gender, to assess poverty, employment, social integration and other social factors, to monitor the impact of social policies and programmes, and to find ways to improve the effectiveness of policies and programmes and introduce new programmes;

(i) Strengthening implementation and monitoring mechanisms, including arrangements for the participation of civil society in policy-making and implementation, and collaboration with international organizations;

(j) All countries should regularly assess their progress towards implementing the outcome of the Summit, possibly in the form of periodic national reports, outlining successes, problems and obstacles. Such reports could be considered within the framework of an appropriate consolidated reporting system taking into account the different reporting procedures in the economic, social and environmental fields.

84. International support for the formulation of national strategies for social development will require actions by bilateral and multilateral agencies for:

(a) Assisting countries to strengthen or rebuild their capacities for formulating, coordinating, implementing and monitoring integrated strategies for social development;

(b) Coordinating the assistance provided by different agencies for similar planning processes under other international action plans;

(c) Developing improved concepts and programmes of collection and dissemination of statistics and indicators for social development to facilitate review and policy analysis and to provide expertise, advice and support to countries at their request.

B. Involvement of civil society

85. Effective implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action requires strengthening community organizations and non-profit non-governmental organizations in the sphere of education, health, poverty, social integration, human rights, improvement of quality of life, relief and rehabilitation, enabling them to participate constructively in policy making and implementation. This will require:

(a) Encouraging and supporting the creation and development of such organizations, particularly among the disadvantaged and vulnerable people;

(b) Establishing legislative and regulatory frameworks, institutional arrangements and consultative mechanisms for involving these organizations in the design, implementation and evaluation of social development strategies and programmes;

(c) Supporting capacity-building programmes for these organizations in critical areas such as participatory planning, programme design, implementation and evaluation, economic and financial analysis, credit management, research, information and advocacy;

(d) Providing resources through such measures as small grant programmes, technical and other administrative support for initiatives taken and managed at the community level;

(e) Strengthening networking and exchange of expertise and experience among these organizations.

86. The contribution of civil society including the private sector to social development can be enhanced by:

(a) Developing planning and policy-making procedures that facilitate partnership and cooperation between Governments and civil society in social development;

(b) Encouraging business enterprises to pursue investment and other policies, including non-commercial activities, which will contribute to social development, especially in relation to the generation of work opportunities, social support services at the work place, access to productive resources and construction of infrastructure;

(c) Enabling and encouraging trade unions to participate in the planning and implementation of social development programmes, especially in relation to the generation of work opportunities under fair conditions, the provision of training, health care and other basic services, and development of an economic environment which facilitates sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

(d) Enabling and encouraging farmers' representative organizations and cooperatives to participate in the formulation and implementation of sustainable agricultural and rural development policies and programmes;

(e) Encouraging and facilitating the development of cooperatives including those among people living in poverty or belonging to vulnerable groups;

(f) Supporting academic and research institutions particularly in the developing countries, in their contribution to social development programmes, and to facilitate the mechanisms for independent, detached, impartial and objective monitoring of social progress, especially through collecting, analysing and disseminating information and ideas about economic and social development;

(g) Encouraging educational institutions, the media and other sources of public information and opinion to give special prominence to the challenges of social development and to facilitate widespread and well-informed debate about social policies throughout the community.

C. Mobilization of financial resources

87. The implementation of the Declaration and the Programme of Action at the national level may require substantial new and additional resources, both in the public and the private sector. Augmenting the availability of public resources for social development requires at the national level:

(a) Implementing macroeconomic and microeconomic policies in accordance with national priorities and policies, aimed at encouraging greater domestic savings and investment required for public spending, through progressive, fair and economically efficient taxes which are cognizant of sustainable development concerns, and through cutting back on subsidies that do not benefit the poor;

(b) Reducing as appropriate, excessive military expenditures and investments for arms production and acquisition, consistent with national security requirements, in order to increase resources for social and economic development;

(c) Giving high priority to social development in the allocation of public spending and ensuring predictable funding for the relevant programmes;

(d) Ensuring that the resources for social development are available at the level of administration which is responsible for formulating and implementing the relevant programmes;

(e) Increasing the effective and transparent utilization of public resources, reducing waste and combating corruption, and concentrating on the areas of greatest social need;

(f) Developing innovative sources of funding, both public and private, for social programmes and creating a supportive environment for the mobilization of resources by civil society, including beneficiary contributions and individual voluntary contributions, for social development.

88. Implementation of the Declaration and the Programme of Action in developing countries, in particular in Africa and the least developed countries, will need

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additional financial resources and more effective development cooperation and assistance. This will require:

(a) Translating the commitments of the Summit into financial implications for social development programmes in developing countries, particularly Africa and the least developed countries;

(b) Striving for the fulfilment of the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product (GNP) for overall official development assistance as soon as possible, and increase the share of funding for social development programmes, commensurate with the scope and scale of activities required to achieve the objectives and goals of this Declaration and its Programme of Action;

[(c) A special fund entitled the "International fund for social development" should be established using new and innovative sources of financing to make available the necessary additional resources for social development for the implementation of the Copenhagen Programme of Action. The overall governance of this fund will be decided through the General Assembly/the Economic and Social Council;]

[(d) (alternative 1) Agreeing on a mutual commitment between developed and developing countries, to give higher priority to basic social services by allocating, on average, 20 per cent of ODA and 20 per cent of national budget, respectively, to priority basic social programmes;]

[(d) (alternative 2) Agreeing on the mutual commitment between interested developed and developing partners to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of ODA and 20 per cent of the national budget, respectively, to social programmes assigned to meeting human needs;]

[(d) (alternative 3) Agreeing on a mutual commitment between developed countries and interested developing countries that so request to give higher priority to basic social services by allocating, on average, 20 per cent of ODA and 20 per cent of national budget, respectively, to priority social programmes;]

[(d) (alternative 4) Developing international expertise and information on the contributory share of national budgets and official development aid to social development spending corresponding to the priorities of this Summit;]

[(d) (alternative 5) Agreeing on a mutual commitment between developed and developing countries, to give higher priority to basic social services by allocating a higher percentage of ODA and national budgets to priority basic social programmes;]

(e) Giving high priority in ODA to the eradication of poverty in developing countries, in particular Africa, low income countries in Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and the least developed countries;

[(f) Limiting the costs of support measures and backstopping, especially overhead costs, in any case, such costs shall only represent an appropriately

low percentage of the total of the project and programme so as to maximize project and programme efficiency;]

(g) Providing assistance for social sector activities including the rehabilitation and development of social infrastructure including in the form of grants or soft loans;

(h) Implementation of the commitments of the international community to the special needs and vulnerabilities of the small-island developing States, in particular by providing effective means including adequate, predictable, new and additional resources for social development programmes in accordance with the Barbados Declaration and on the basis of the relevant provisions of the Programmes of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

(i) Provide international support and assistance to the land-locked developing countries in their efforts to implement the outcome of the Social Summit, taking into account the challenges and problems characteristic to these countries;

(j) Giving preference wherever possible to the utilization of competent national experts or, where necessary, competent experts from within the subregion, region, other developing countries, in project and programme design, preparation and implementation, and to the building of local expertise where it does not exist;

(k) Exploring ways and means to strengthen support and expand South-South cooperation based on partnership between developing and developed countries as well as enhanced cooperation among developing countries;

(l) To maximize project and programme efficiency by keeping to minimum overhead costs;

(m) Developing economic policies to promote and mobilize domestic savings and attract external resources for productive investment and seek innovative sources of funding, both public and private, for social programmes while ensuring their effective utilization;

(n) Monitoring the impact of trade liberalization on progress made in developing countries to meet basic human needs, giving particular attention to new initiatives to expand their access to international markets;

(o) Encouraging direct cooperation to promote joint ventures including in the sector of social programmes and infrastructure;

(p) Encouraging recipient governments to strengthen their national coordination mechanisms for international cooperation in social development and to ensure the effective use of international assistance so as to assist donors to secure commitment to further resources for national action plans;

(q) Inviting multilateral and bilateral donors to consult, with a view to coordinating their financing policies and planning procedures, to improve the impact, complementarity and cost effectiveness of their contributions to the achievement of the objectives of social development programmes of developing countries.

89. Implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action in countries with economies in transition will require continued international cooperation and assistance. To this end, there is a need to:

(a) Assess financial implications of the commitments of the Summit for social development programmes in countries with economies in transition;

(b) Enhance technical and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes of macroeconomic stabilization in order to ensure sustained economic growth and sustainable development, **[as well as to reduce the negative consequences, on the social sphere, of the conversion of defence industries;]**

(c) Support and encourage transformations in the field of human resources development;

(d) Invite multilateral and bilateral donors to consult, with a view to coordinating their financing policies and planning procedures, to improve the impact of their contribution to the achievement of the objectives of social development programmes of countries with economies in transition.

90. Substantial debt reduction is needed to enable developing countries to implement the Declaration and the Programme of Action. Building on, inter alia, the momentum from the July 1994 meeting of the seven major industrialized countries in Naples and the October 1994 meeting of the Governors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund further progress can be made by:

(a) Inviting the international community, including the international financial institutions, to continue to explore ways of implementing additional and innovative measures to alleviate substantially the debt burdens of developing countries, in particular of the highly indebted low-income countries, in order to help them to achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development without falling into a new debt crisis;

[(b) Adopting measures to eliminate the bilateral debts of Africa and the least developed countries not later than 1996;]

[(c) Adopting measures aimed at substantially reducing the debt of other developing countries, particularly of low, lower-middle, and middle income countries, by 1996;]

(d) Giving special consideration to those developing countries where the multilateral debt constitutes an important part of their total debt in order to seek a durable solution to this increasing problem;

(e) Encouraging the possibilities of debt-swaps for social development, with the resources released by debt cancellation or reduction invested in social development programmes, without prejudice to more durable solutions such as debt reduction and/or cancellation;

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(f) Mobilizing the resources of the IDA Debt Reduction Facility in order to help eligible developing countries to reduce their commercial debt; considering alternative mechanisms to complement that facility; **[and allowing application of its principles to other developing countries under similar circumstances;]**

(g) Inviting creditor countries, private banks and multilateral financial institutions, within their prerogatives, to consider the extension of appropriate new financial support to the low-income **[lower-middle income, and middle income]** countries with substantial debt burdens that continue, at great cost, to service the debt and meet their international obligations.

91. In order to ensure that structural adjustment programmes include social development goals, in particular the eradication of poverty, the generation of productive employment and the enhancement of social integration, Governments, in cooperation with the international financial institutions and other international organizations, should:

(a) Protect basic social programmes and expenditures, in particular, those affecting the poor and vulnerable segments of society, from budget reductions;

(b) Review, the impact of structural adjustment programmes on social development, by means of gender-sensitive social-impact assessments and other relevant methods, and develop policies to reduce their negative effects and improve their positive impact;

(c) Further promote policies enabling small enterprises, cooperatives and other forms of micro enterprises to develop their capacities for income generation and employment creation.

92. International financial institutions should contribute to the mobilization of resources for the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action. To this end the relevant institutions are urged to take the following measures:

(a) The World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the regional and subregional development banks and funds and all other international finance organizations should further integrate social development goals in their policies, programmes and operations, including by giving higher priority to social sector lending, where applicable, in their lending programmes;

(b) The Bretton Woods institutions and other organizations of the United Nations system should work together with concerned countries to improve policy dialogues and develop new initiatives to ensure that structural adjustment programmes promote sustained economic and social development, with particular attention to their impact on people living in poverty and vulnerable groups;

(c) The United Nations should, in cooperation with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other multilateral development institutions, study the impact of structural adjustment programmes on economic and social development and assist adjusting countries in creating conditions for economic growth, job creation, poverty eradication and social development.

93. In addition to augmenting the flow of resources through established channels, the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the Economic and Social Council, should be requested to consider new and innovative ideas for generating funds and to offer for this purpose any useful suggestions.

D. The role of the United Nations system

94. A framework for international cooperation must be developed in the context of the Agenda for Development in order to ensure the integrated and comprehensive implementation, follow-up and assessment of the outcome of the Summit together with the results of other recent and planned United Nations conferences related to social development, in particular the World Summit for Children, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, World Conference on Human Rights, the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing Countries, the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II), the International Conference on Population and Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women. On the international level, as on the national, the financial and organizational implications of the commitments, goals and targets should be assessed, priorities established and budgets and work programmes planned.

95. With regard to the consideration of social development at the intergovernmental level special consideration should be given to the role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. To this end:

(a) The General Assembly, as the highest intergovernmental mechanism, is the principal policy-making and appraisal organ on matters relating to the follow-up of the Summit. The Assembly should include the follow-up of the Summit, as an item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development", in its agenda. In 1996, it should review, the effectiveness of the steps taken to implement the outcome of the Summit with regard to poverty eradication as part of the activities relating to the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty;

(b) The Assembly should hold a special session in the year 2000 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit and consider further action and initiatives;

(c) The Assembly as well as the Economic and Social Council could convene meetings of high level representatives to promote international dialogue on critical social issues and on policies for addressing them through international cooperation;

(d) The Assembly should draw upon the initial work of the Agenda for Development working group on a common framework for the implementation of the outcome of conferences;

(e) The Economic and Social Council in the context of its role under the Charter _vis-à-vis_ the General Assembly and in accordance with Assembly resolutions 45/264, 46/235 and 48/162 would oversee system-wide coordination in the implementation of the Summit outcome and making recommendations in this regard. It should look at ways to strengthen, consistent with Charter mandates, the role and the authority, structures, resources and processes of the Council and bringing specialized agencies into a closer working relationship with the Council so that it could review progress made towards fulfilling the outcome of the Summit as well as improving the Council's effectiveness. The Council at its substantive session in 1995 should be invited to review the mandate, agenda and composition of the Commission for Social Development, including considerations of the strengthening of the Commission taking into account the need for synergy with other related commissions and conference follow-up. The Council should also draw upon any initial work completed by that time on a common framework for the implementation of conference outcomes referred to in paragraph 94. The Council should also be invited to review the reporting system in the area of social development with a view to establishing a coherent system that would result in clear policy recommendations for Governments and international actors. **[The Economic and Social Council could also make recommendations for improving the capacity of the United Nations to analyse and respond in a coordinated fashion to economic and social crisis;]**

[(f) The Economic and Social Council and the Development Committee of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund should hold a joint meeting, on an annual basis, for the purpose of considering the implementation of the Declaration and the Programme of Action. The format, duration and agenda of the meeting shall be decided upon after consultations between the President of the Council and the Chairman of the Development Committee;]

(g) To promote implementation of the outcomes at the regional and subregional level, the regional commissions of the United Nations, in cooperation with the regional intergovernmental organizations and banks could convene, on a biennial basis, a meeting at a high political level to review progress made towards fulfilling the outcome of the Summit, exchange views on their respective experiences and adopt the appropriate measures. The regional commissions should report through the appropriate mechanisms to the Council on their outcome;

[(h) To assist national efforts to mobilize resources for implementing the Summit outcome, the Economic and Social Council could consider convening an expert committee on international cooperation to strengthen national tax systems as well as conduct a study in consultation with Bretton Woods institutions and other relevant organizations especially the United Nations Funds and Programmes on the impact of the international monetary and fiscal systems on social development;]

(i) The important role of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in monitoring those aspects of the Declaration and Programme of Action that relate to compliance, by States parties, with the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights should be emphasized.

96. The United Nations system should provide technical cooperation and other forms of assistance to the developing countries, in particular Africa and the least developed countries, in implementing the Declaration and Programme of Action. To this end:

(a) The United Nations system, including the technical and sectoral agencies and the Bretton Woods institutions, should expand and improve their cooperation in the field of social development to ensure that their efforts are complementary and where possible combining resources in joint initiatives for social development built around common objectives of the Summit;

(b) In order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of United Nations organizations in providing support for social development efforts at the national level, and to enhance their capacity to serve the objectives of the Summit, there is a need to renew, reform and revitalize the various parts of the United Nations system, in particular its operational activities. All specialized agencies and related organizations of the United Nations system are invited to strengthen and adjust their activities, programmes and medium-term strategies, as appropriate, to take into account the follow up to the Summit. Relevant governing bodies should review their policies, programmes, budgets and activities in this regard;

(c) The Administrative Committee on Coordination should consider how the participating entities might best coordinate their activities to implement the objectives of the Summit;

(d) Regular reports should be provided by the Funds and Programmes, and the specialized agencies, to the appropriate forums, regarding their plans and programmes related to implementation.

97. The United Nations system should consider and provide appropriate technical cooperation and other forms of assistance to the countries with economies in transition. To this end:

(a) The respective United Nations bodies should assist efforts of those countries in designing and implementing social development programmes;

(b) The United Nations Development Programme should continue to undertake efforts to support the implementation of the social development programmes, taking into account specific needs of the countries with economies in transition;

(c) The United Nations system, including the technical and sectoral agencies, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, should continue their cooperation in the field of social development of countries with economies in transition.

98. The implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action will involve many entities in the system. In order to ensure coherence in this effort the General Assembly should give consideration to:

(a) Promoting and strengthening the coordination of United Nations system activities, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization at the global, regional and national levels in the area of economic and social development programmes, including, inter alia, through reports to and meetings in coordination with the Economic and Social Council;

(b) Inviting the World Trade Organization to consider how it might contribute to the implementation of the Programme of Action, including activities in cooperation with the United Nations system;

(c) Requesting the International Labour Organization, which because of its mandate, tripartite structures and expertise, has a special role to play in the field of employment and social development, to contribute to the implementation of the Programme of Action;

(d) Requesting the Secretary General **[to allocate specific responsibility to an entity of the United Nations Secretariat for overseeing] [ensure effective coordination of]** the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action.

99. The United Nations operational activities for development should be strengthened in order to implement the Summit outcome, in accordance with relevant resolutions, particularly General Assembly resolution 47/199, and to this end:

(a) The United Nations Development Programme should organize United Nations system efforts towards capacity-building at the local, national and regional levels and support the coordinated implementation of social development programmes through its network of field offices;

(b) Coordination at the country level should be improved through the resident coordinator system to take full account of this Declaration and Programme of Action and related international agreements;

(c) The United Nations system should encourage and assist South-South cooperation and technical cooperation among developing countries, at all levels, as an important instrument for social development and the implementation of the Programme of Action;

(d) United Nations development efforts should be supported by a substantial increase in resources for operational activities for development on a predictable, continuous and assured basis, commensurate with the increasing needs of developing countries, as stated in resolution 47/199;

[(e) Strengthening the United Nations system's capacity for gathering and analysing information and developing indicators of social development.]

100. The support and the participation of major groups as defined in Agenda 21 are essential to the success of the implementation of the Programme of Action. To ensure the commitment of these groups they must be involved in the planning, elaboration, implementation and evaluation at both national and international levels. To this end, mechanisms are needed to support, promote and allow their effective participation in all relevant United Nations bodies, including the mechanisms responsible for reviewing the implementation of the World Summit for Social Development.
